Daily Report

Near East & South Asia

FBIS-NES-91-171
Wednesday
4 September 1991

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Inter-Arab Affairs

Arab League Denies Iran Seeking Observer Status

NC0309170291 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1547 GMT 3 Sep 91

[Text] Cairo, 3 Sep (MENA)—An official source at the Arab League today denied that Iran had submitted a memorandum to Arab League Secretary General Dr. 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid requesting that it be allowed to attend Arab League meetings as an observer.

The Kuwaiti newspaper AL-FAJR AL-JADID has reported that the Iranian charge d'affaires in Cairo, 'Ali Asghar Mohammadi, submitted a memorandum to Dr. 'Abd-al-Majid during their meeting yesterday asking that Iran be allowed to attend Arab League meetings as an observer in view of its links and affiliation with the Arab region. The source said the report is false and explained that Dr. 'Abd-al- Majid's meeting with the Iranian charge d'affaires dealt with ways of bolstering Arab-Iranian relations. He added that the envoy had delivered a message to Dr. 'Abd-al-Majid from Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati congratulating him on his assumption of his post.

Arab League Not To Discuss Turkish Moves in Iraq

TA0109091391 Ankara ANATOLIA in English 0800 GMT 1 Sep 91

[Text] Cairo (A.A)—As the Arab world is beginning to react favorably to Turkey's operation into northern Iraq last month against separatist terrorist camps there, the issue has not been included in the agenda of the foreign ministers meeting of the Arab League in Cairo this month.

In an exclusive interview, Adnan Umran, the assistant to the secretary general of the Arab League, told AA [ANADOLU AJANSI] that Iraq has not made an application to the league for inclusion of the issue to the agenda.

However, Iraq asked from the organization's secretary general that individual initiatives be taken towards Turkey, asking it not to repeat such an operation, Umran said.

He added that the stand of the Arab League towards the issue has been stated previously and that they attached importance on the protection of the rights of sovereignty of Iraq. Iraq's representative at the league, Ambassador Nebil Negm told AA that his country did not have any intention to bring up the matter during the foreign ministers' conference.

Meanwhile, Egypt which had reacted strongly to Turkey's hot pursuit of terrorists in northern Iraq at the beginning, has begun to empathize the move.

Turkey's Cairo Ambassador Candemir Onhon, in a meeting with Egyptian Foreign Minister 'Amr Musa, told him that Turkey's operation into northern Iraq was carried out in line with a "hot pursuit" agreement drawn previously between the two countries, AA learned.

Ambassador Onhon will also give explanation to secretary general of the Arab League on the justifications of Turkey's operation.

Arab League Receives Jordanian White Paper Memo

NC0309065991 Cairo Arab Republic of Egypt Radio Network in Arabic 1400 GMT 2 Sep 91

[Text] Arab League Secretary General Dr. 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid has said that he has received a memorandum from the Government of the Arab Republic of Egypt replying to the white paper recently issued by the Jordanian Foreign Ministry on the Gulf crisis and the contacts between Egypt and Jordan and among other Arab leaders during the crisis.

'Abd-al-Majid said the Arab League secretariat today distributed the Egyptian memorandum to the permanent delegate of Arab states upon Egypt's request.

Arab League Chief Sends Message to 'Arafat

NC0209113591 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1051 GMT 2 Sep 91

[Text] Cairo, 2 Sep (MENA)—Arab League Secretary General Dr. 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid has sent a message to PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat.

Palestinian Ambassador to Cairo Sa'id Kamal said after a meeting with the Arab League secretary general today that Dr. 'Abd-al-Majid had him to convey a "verbal message" to Yasir 'Arafat concerning the upcoming Arab League Council meeting in Cairo on 10 September.

Kamal noted that Palestine will participate in the meeting with a delegation chaired by Farouq Qaddumi, head of the PLO Political Department.

The Palestinian ambassador added that his talks with Dr. 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid today dealt with the arrangements for the Council meeting and ways of bolstering the Palestinian people's issue.

Palestinian Affairs

'Arafat Receives Message From UK's Hurd

LD0209184691 Algiers Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1702 GMT 2 Sep 91

[Text] The brother leader, President Abu-'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], yesterday evening received a message from Douglas Hurd, the British foreign secretary, on ways of promoting the peace process in the region.

The message was conveyed by the British ambassador in Tunisia, Stephen Day, yesterday evening.

'Arafat Sends Message to Bolivian President

LD3008220891 Algiers Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1702 GMT 30 Aug 91

[Text] Brother leader President Abu 'Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] today sent a message to His Excellency Paz Zamora, president of the Republic of Bolivia. The message was delivered to him by the PLO representative in the Bolivian capital during a meeting with him yesterday. On this occasion, the PLO representative briefed President Zamora on developments on the Palestinian question, particularly the PLO stand on the peace conference, which is based on attachment to implementation of international legitimacy and Israeli withdrawal from all occupied Palestinian and Arab lands, including the city of Jerusalem, capital of the state of Palestine. The Bolivian president reaffirmed to the PLO representative his country's supportive stand on the Palestinian people's struggle under the leadership of its sole legitimate representative, the PLO.

PLO Headquarters Transfer to Cairo Fails

LD0309210691 London KUNA in Arabic 1453 GMT 3 Sep 91

[Text] Paris, 3 Sep (KUNA)—KUNA learned that Arab mediations recently failed on the possibility of transferring the PLO headquarters from Tunis to Cairo.

Arab diplomatic sources informed KUNA today that Libyan President Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi has not succeeded in his mediation with Egyptian President Husni Mubarak to transfer the PLO headquarters from Tunis to Cairo, according to the wish of the Palestinian leadership.

The idea was raised during Libya's recent celebrations to inaugurate the Manmade River Project in the presence of Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO. It is know that the aforementioned organization is currently conducting contacts with Jordanian officials to transfer the headquarters of the Palestinian leadership to the Jordanian capital.

The diplomatic sources said in their statements to KUNA that "the issue has not been decided yet, and that Jordan will not agree to transferring the organization's ledership under any circumstances".

Jordanian Prime Minister Tahir al-Masri represented his country at the Libyan celebrations.

PLO Denies Report of Saudi Funds Freeze

JN0209160291 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 2 Sep 91 p 32

[Text] We have received the following from Salih al-Barghuthi, deputy board chairman of the Palestine National Fund [PNF]:

—Jordanian AL-RA'Y newspaper published in its Friday issue dated 30 August 1991 a news item headlined "The PLO Demands $170 million from Saudi Arabia, Deducted From Salaries of Palestinian workers."

In my capacity as PNF deputy board chairman, I express my great surprise at such news reports, which are very far from the truth and are harmful to the Palestinian brothers working in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. Many of them have contacted us to denounce the report in terms of form and content, and to emphasize that the Saudi Arabian Government is regularly deducting the contributions of Palestinians for transfer to the strugglers and the martyrs' families. The money is then deposited in a special account of the popular committees, which are tasked with transferring the money at regular intervals to the account that has been agreed on with the Palestinian leadership, and under its supervision.

The amount of money mentioned in the report has been very much exaggerated, since our information indicates that the money collected by all popular committees in the kingdom is less than $10 million, and that the latest transfer of an equal sum has been made to the account agreed on with the Palestinian leadership. We are confident that the same procedure will be followed at the appropriate time.

For the sake of the higher interests of the Palestine question and the Palestinians working in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, we hope that the brothers in AL-RA'Y newspaper, which we respect and appreciate those working on it, would confirm such reports from the concerned quarters in the PLO.

PNC Official on Algiers Session, Peace Efforts

JN0209110591 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 2 Sep 91 p 4

[Interview with Salim al-Za'nun, deputy speaker of the Palestine National Council and Fatah Central Committee member, by Nabil 'Amr; place and date not given]

[Excerpts] ['Amr] Will the Palestine National Council [PNC] convene? When and where will it convene?
[Al-Za'nun] Yes, it will convene before the end of September in Algiers, and preparations are all ready.

['Amr] Which factions will attend?
[Al-Za'nun] So far, all factions originally in the PNC will attend, including both parts of the Islamic Jihad. Negotiations with Hamas and with the Palestinian National Salvation Front [PNSF] in Syria are still under way and are progressing in a satisfactory manner. We are determined to continue these negotiations until the very last moment because we want this council to include all national forces and factions. We do not want anyone to be left out.

['Amr] Hamas has laid down two conditions: To either be given 40 percent of the seats on the council, or to hold elections inside and outside the occupied territories. The second condition is difficult. Hamas' strategy is represented by the restoration of Palestine from the [Mediterranean] sea to the [Jordan] river. Hence, is it possible for the PLO to reach an agreement with Hamas in light of these conditions?

[Al-Za'nun] I believe that the political grounds for an agreement are now present because the Zionist enemy has rejected everything. Moreover, the prevailing trend among the Palestinian cadres is rigidness and Palestinian solidarity is expected to emerge from the PNC meetings strong enough to equal the existing firmness of Shamir.

Hence, any conditions laid down by any faction will disappear before this new trend, which has become an almost general rule among PLO circles and the Palestinian people, and among those who led the previous stage, which began by the Palestinian peace initiative in 1988. This is so because we have shown unprecedented flexibility. However, we have gained nothing from this flexibility. It is only natural for things to go back to their rigid nature, and for us to return to our armed struggle and to demand all of our national rights.

['Amr] If Hamas and the PNSF, or either of them, do not respond to the dialogue, will the PLO be able to adopt a strategic political decision concerning the peace conference, bearing in mind the possibility of Israel making concessions?
[Al-Za'nun] The PNC, which adopted crucial decisions at the 19th session, was held in the absence of the PNSF and in the absence of Hamas. When it convenes for its 20th session in the presence of the quorum—two thirds the members plus one—the council will not be disrupted. What will the case be when the quorum is more than 90 percent of the representatives of the Palestinian people, as was the case in the 19th session? All that we want is for the 10 percent remaining outside the council, of the new forces and factions that emerged through the blessed intifadah, to join it.

['Amr] Do I understand from this that the council will convene in an ordinary rather than an extraordinary session?
[Al-Za'nun] Yes. In the preparatory meetings, we rejected the idea of holding an extraorindary session because the council's term had ended some time ago, but the events in the Gulf postponed convening the council. We held an extraordinary session in 1988, when the Palestinian state was declared. We do not want to weaken our first constitutional institution by holding another extraordinary session. Therefore, we must hold an ordinary session. This is an issue that enjoys consensus. Consequently, the preparatory committee must work rapidly to finalize the council structure and a list of members to whom invitations will be addressed before next week. Meetings are under way for this very purpose.

['Amr] How will the PNC deal with the two factions of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine [DFLP]?
[Al-Za'nun] The PNC has nothing to do with this issue; it has a list of the DFLP members in accordance with the seats they have been given a long time ago. The PNC will deal with the message it will receive from the DFLP General Secretariat, which will confirm the names or make changes in them. If we do not receive a legitimate message, we will not make any changes. The PNC has nothing to do with this issue.

['Amr] Which of the two factions is considered legitimate?
[Al-Za'nun] We do not interfere in this issue. In accordance with the preparatory committee's decisions, we adopt the message of the faction's General Secretariat or command, which names the representatives of any party in the council.

I would like to reassure you that a committee comprising brothers Yasir 'Arafat, Faruq Qaddumi, alias Abu-al-Lutf, and others are trying to mend the rift within the DFLP on a level broader than representatives to the PNC. [passage omitted]

['Amr] Let us move to the political events and the peace conference for which the United States is making preparations. What is the reality of the PLO's position on these moves?
[Al-Za'nun] The PLO says yes to every effort that is exerted to resolve the Palestinian question. The solution should be fair and should respond to the UN resolutions on this issue. We reject double-standard dealing in the international issues. While supporting the right of the three Baltic republics to independence, in accordance with the right to self-determination, the West does not support the Palestinians' right to self-determination and to an independent state, as stipulated in the partition Resolution No. 181, as it supported the right taken from them by force to establish the state of Israel. The United States should not be in control of the world while disavowing Wilson's principles which gave the Americans their right to armed struggle to form the United States. [sentence as published] In addition, the United States should not also keep the Palestinians' right to self-determination on paper only.

America should not lead the world under the slogan "the liberation of Kuwait and the implementation of the Security Council resolutions" issued by the United States to evacuate the Iraqi forces, and when the Arabs call for withdrawal from Palestine, southern Lebanon, or the Golan it says it will try. As it claims, the United States cannot put pressure on Israel, thereby, ignoring President Eisenhower's stand in 1956 when he threatened Israel to withdraw from Gaza, and it did so at night without any clamor.

The question now is how the Arabs, who are allies of the United States, accept the destruction of a military force, which if used in a good way, would have been a guarantee for the Arabs' negotiating position. Meanwhile, those Arabs are following the United States and responding to its desire to normalize relations with Israel and to prepare for recognizing Israel and propagating it to the Arab people.

The strange thing is that the Arab countries, which claim they triumphed in the Gulf war, are quickly following the U.S. desires, while the countries said to have been defeated are still standing with loftiness in the face of

U.S. pressures. These countries have not responded to the U.S. desires, which will lead to recognizing Israel without getting anything in return. What is even stranger is that the victorious countries are making payments, while in fact they should ask to be paid.

The PLO, however, which is being threatened with serious consequences by the United States, is determined not to betray its national cause. It cannot enter into a course that has no exit, nor can they enter the water without knowing how to swim. [passage omitted]

Official Claims 'New U.S. Threat' From Pickering

JN0209103791 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 1 Sep 91 p 2

[By Nabil 'Amr]

[Text] Amman—Salim al-Za'nun, also known as Abu-al-Adib first deputy speaker of the Palestine National Council, revealed a new U.S. threat against the PLO which was received about a month ago.

The details of this threat, according to al-Za'nun, are that Dr. Nabil Sha'th, political adviser to Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat, was in contact in New York with Thomas Pickering, U.S. permanent representative to the United Nations.

Dr. Sha'th pointed out to Pickering before this recent dialogue that the United States must stress its credibility by pressuring Israel into halting its settlement building by stopping or delaying the granting of $10 billion earmarked for new settlements.

In a lengthy interview AL-DUSTUR will publish tomorrow, al-Za'nun said that during his recent dialogue with Pickering, Dr. Sha'th expected U.S. progress with regard to pressuring Israel and convincing it to implement UN Resolution 242.

However, the U.S. answer was: "We tried, but we could not reach an agreement with Israel."

When the talks between Palestinian and U.S. officials touched upon the peace conference, Pickering's advice to Sha'th was: "If you want the goal you must sacrifice the means." In other words, the PLO must remain far from the peace conference, and must accept that Palestine be represented at the conference by a delegation from inside the occupied territories. At this point, Dr. Sha'th asked his interlocutor: "If we did that, will there be guarantees for withdrawal from the West Bank, the Gaza Strip, and Jerusalem?"

Pickering answered: "There are no guarantees. If there were guarantees, why would a peace conference even be needed? The conference means that you will enter negotiations and do what is within your power." In other words, get what you can.

When Sha'th told Pickering, "I think that my leadership will reject such proposals, no matter what the consequences," Pickering said, "Did you not learn the lessons of what recently happened to you in Kuwait and in southern Lebanon. If you insist on your position, then I predict grave consequences!!"

PNC Speaker on PNSF, Hamas Membership Talks

JN0209070491 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 2 Sep 91 p 26

[Text] Amman—Shaykh 'Abd-al-Hamid al-Sa'ih, speaker of the Palestine National Council [PNC] and chairman of the committee preparing for the formation of the new PNC, declared that a delegation headed by Fatah Central Committee member 'Abbas Zaki began their dialogue last night in the Yemeni capital with the Palestinian National Salvation Front [PNSF] concerning the latter's entry into the PNC.

In an exclusive statement to AL-RA'Y, Shaykh al-Sa'ih denied that the PNC meeting will be postponed and confirmed that it will be held in the Algerian capital in the second half of September.

He also stressed that another dialogue was resumed in Amman yesterday morning between the PLO and the Islamic Resistance Movement-Hamas on the latter's entry into the new PNC. Independent PNC members including Yasir 'Amr, 'Abd-al-'Aziz al-Haj Ahmad, Mahmud Tayyim, and others called for overcoming any difficulties that might emerge in the numerous dialogues between the PLO and Hamas.

The participants' sources in the dialogue stressed that the meeting fell within the framework of entrenching national unity and the need for Hamas to join the PLO.

In statements to AL-RA'Y, PNSF sources stressed that a delegation was formed to begin dialogue in the Yemeni capital during the beginning of September. The delegation is headed by former PNC Speaker Khalid al-Fahum and includes Talal Naji from the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command; Muhammad Khalifah from al-Sa'iqah; 'Arabi 'Awwad from the Palestinian Revolutionary Communist Party; and independent members Zuhdi al- Nashashibi and 'Abd-al-Muhsin Abu-Mayzar; absent was Colonel Abu-Musa [Sa'id Musa Muragha] of Fatah-the Uprising.

These sources expressed the desire for sincere efforts to attain comprehensive Palestinian national unity based on national constants and on adherence to the resolutions of Palestinian national consensus.

PNSF sources stressed the front's acceptance of holding a comprehensive dialogue to be attended by all Palestinian national forces, factions, and figures, with the aim of attaining national unity within the framework of the unified PLO—the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

Intifadah Leadership Call No. 74 on Jerusalem

JN0309183491 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1600 GMT 3 Sep 91

[Call No. 74, "Call for Steadfastness", issued by the Unified National Leadership of the Intifadah, UNLI, "in the State of Palestine"; date not given]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. No voice rises above the voice of the intifadah; no voice rises above the voice of the PLO.

Masses of our heroic people: Our blessed intifadah has been proceeding firmly for 46 months, determined to continue the march down the path of liberation and independence, no matter how costly the sacrifices, and no matter how intense and diversified are the Zionist enemy campaigns of oppression and persecution against our great people.

Our great people: The PLO, backed by our valiant intifadah, remains the only torch of hope under the shadow of unilateral American decisionmaking and Arab surrender to this unilateralism, and amid decline and collapse in official Arab positions. The PLO remains the bright spotlight that illuminates, through the blood of martyrs, all the Arab homeland. The objectives of the U.S. scheme of unilateralism become increasingly clear as political moves continue their current course. This scheme aims at perpetuating hegemony on the states of the region, liquidating the Palestine question, and sacrificing our people.

In this context, the UNLI stresses that the U.S. Administration is still far from serious in its proposals for peace. So far, it has not shown the necessary responsiveness that secures the requirements of a just, comprehensive, and lasting peace. The UNLI stresses that any peaceful settlement must essentially be based on implementing the resolutions of international legitimacy, which provide for ending the Israeli occupation of all Arab territories, including Jerusalem, and recognizing the political and national rights of the Palestinian people, including their right to repatriation, self-determination, and establishment of their independent state. Palestinian participation in any conference should be based on this and on the fact that the PLO is the only party authorized to represent the Palestinian people and speak about their rights. Any attempt to deflect this fact would mean harming the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people.

Masses of our heroic people: Maintaining national unity at this critical stage through which the cause of our people is passing is a main issue that we should cling to and defend. Under these circumstances, the enemy should not be given the chance to infiltrate through gaps that some may open in the fence of our unity, such as the threats directed to the nationalist Palestinian figures that met with U.S. Secretary of State Baker. Despite the differences among the resistance factions on the meetings with Baker, the UNLI stresses that democratic dialogue is the only sound method to bolster national unity. The UNLI strongly condemns these threats and urges a halt to these methods, which do not serve the unity of our people in these sensitive and fateful circumstances. The UNLI also calls for strengthening the bonds of unity based on the firm national principles acknowledged by the Palestinian legislative institutions. It urges the masses of our people to protect unity, safeguard the national position, and defend the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of all our people inside and outside the occupied territories.

Masses of our struggling people: The UNLI would like to explain its position and views on the following important issues:

First, Jerusalem:

The Zionist enemy is methodically and carefully continuing its Judaization of Jerusalem through gradual watering down of Palestinian presence in the city. It is working to vacate the city from its original inhabitants by seizing houses inside and outside the old city and building security belts around it. The organized campaign has reached serious proportions where the future of Jerusalem is at stake.

In order to confront this cruel Zionist scheme, we urge the masses of our people to:

1. Execute whoever is proved to have sold any real estate in Jerusalem to Jews.

2. The UNLI urges the sons of our people, who own homes in the old city of Jerusalem and live outside it, to immediately return to these homes. This will deny the Zionist enemy the chance to seize their homes and give them to settlers. The UNLI also urges the owners of closed shops in Jerusalem to reopen them immediately or to rent them to people they trust in order to avoid paralysis in Arab commercial activity in the city.

3. The UNLI urges landlords in Jerusalem and its suburbs to take into consideration the difficult economic circumstances our people are experiencing and not to force citizens to leave the Jerusalem area to escape landlords' greed, as this would serve the Israeli scheme of displacement. The UNLI warns landlords demanding high rents in dollars and dinars of the gravity of continuing to impose these heavy prices on tenants.

4. The UNLI appeals to our steadfast kinfolk behind the green line to shoulder their national, religious, and historical responsibilities toward Jerusalem through the organization of regular group tours of the city and to break the isolation imposed on Jerusalem by the occupation authorities, which are preventing thousands of the sons of our people in the West Bank and Gaza Strip from reaching it.

5. The UNLI urges the Jerusalem committee, the Islamic Awqaf Administration, and charity institutions and societies to extend every aid possible to citizens in Jerusalem in order to guarantee and support their steadfastness in

their homes, especially through the restoration of houses in the old city. The UNLI urges every Jerusalem citizen with a complaint in this regard to immediately ask our Palestinian newspapers to publish it. The UNLI will follow this up at the highest levels.

6. The UNLI warns some tourist companies against the continued dealing with Israeli guides who accompany foreign tourists in their visits to Jerusalem, as this results in the distortion of the Arab and Islamic character of Jerusalem. Those companies are urged to employ Palestinian tourist guides through addressing the concerned union in Jerusalem. The UNLI also urges all tourist sectors in Jerusalem to immediately set up a specialized committee to develop plans and programs to activate tourism and not to rely on the EC aid for these sectors. The UNLI urges all nationalist parties to extend every possible support for this committee.

7. The UNLI declares that the period from 23 to 30 September will be a week for Jerusalem in order to stress its Arabism and to face the dangers of Judaizing and seizing it. It calls for implementing the following:

—From 24 to 30 September shops within the walls of the old city only will open until 1800.

—23 September will be a day for voluntary national action to clean the city and its markets and religious squares.

—On 24 September women's organizations are urged to organize mass visits in the company of the families of martyrs, detainees, and intifadah wounded to the religious and historical sites and landmarks of Jerusalem and to stage a women's sit-in within the walls [of the old city].

—25 and 25 September will be days for inviting all nationalist and popular figures and representatives of professional and peasants unions, societies, and clubs to be present in the squares of the al-Aqsa mosque for consultation and debates on the status of the of the holy city. On these days, schools and clubs will be invited to organize trips and visits to Jerusalem and its religious and historical landmarks.

—On the 27th September, the Muslim masses are called on to offer prayers at the blessed al-Aqsa Mosque.

—On the 28th, all the trade union, student, and women's organizations are called on to stage marches and hold rallies within the Jerusalem walls.

—On the 29th, the Christian Palestinians are called on to offer prayers in the old Jerusalem churches.

—On the 30th, the UNLI calls for holding a Christian-Muslim conference in Jerusalem with the aim of protecting it, and appeals to all the nationalist and religious forces to work for making this conference a success.

Second, on the internal level:

The UNLI announces the beginning of Palestinian winter time as of 15 September. Clocks will be put back by 60 minutes.

The UNLI asks our students, who are about to begin their new scholastic year, to preserve the educational process and to take up education as an important weapon for our people in their fateful battle, robbing the enemy of the opportunity to exploit all conditions and close down the educational institutions. The UNLI affirms the need to end the phenomenon of cheating in schools this year in a definitive manner. The UNLI calls on student committees to stand firm and confront all attempts to disturb the educational process.

Recently, the Zionist occupiers and their agents have been accustomed to exploiting the headdress mask in order to attack personal property through acts of robbery and by storming the homes of peaceful citizens. This is now being practiced in some of the heroic Gaza Strip areas. Therefore, in order to rob the enemy of this opportunity, the UNLI renews its appeal that one should not use this mask unless to confront the enemy army and the Zionist settlers. It should not be used to destroy people's security and property, and all those who violate this rule should be pursued and regarded as violating national consensus.

The UNLI salutes all the industrialists who responded to our people's desire and withdrew their nominations to the elections of the Bethlehem chamber of industry. The UNLI renews the call for holding meetings of the general bodies of the chambers of commerce that did not hold elections with the aim of preparing for these elections.

The UNLI is of the opinion that there is a social and militant need to reactivate a number of general living activities. In this respect, the UNLI calls for reactivating sport activities of all types, youth camps, social clubs, and the boy scouts movement in all parts of the State of Palestine.

The UNLI salutes the Palestinian women detainees who went on hunger strike to confront the harshest methods of repression which the prison authorities are practicing against them. The UNLI appeals to our masses, especially our women's organizations, to organize activities in solidarity with the struggle of our men and women strugglers who are languishing in the occupation jails, and to devote the first week of September to organize these functions.

The Zionist authorities have recently begun a campaign of pressure against police officers that have resigned with the aim of forcing them to retract their resignations and return to their work. While appreciating the stand of the resigned police officers, who have shown commitment to the national decision, the UNLI appeals to them to resist such pressure and refrain from returning to their work, thus, perpetuating their continuous commitment to the national decision.

The UNLI appeals to real estate owners in all parts of the State of Palestine to take notice of the harsh economic conditions and refrain from charging high rental rates. It also emphasizes the need for commitment to the previous UNLI decisions in this regard, especially the decision to reduce rents by 25 percent for those who sustain damage and harm, and who will be named through an understanding between those concerned and the men of goodwill in the area.

The UNLI urges tenants to pay rents on time. The herds of settlers have installed many prefabricated houses in the center of the city of Hebron in order to entrench the settlement policy of the occupation authorities. This is seen as a provocation of the city's residents and a flagrant encroachment on their property. It is also part of the settlement plans inside Palestinian cities. These actions should prompt large-scale confrontation through attacking the herds of settlers wherever they are and turning their existence in our homeland into a hell.

The UNLI salutes our masses in the steadfast Gaza Strip and in the heroic City of Janin for their distinguished confrontation of the occupation forces and the herds of settlers. The UNLI also highly values the efforts made by the national committee for reconciliation to solve the problem in Tammun in a way serving the village's interests and national relations. It also considers what has happened there an example to be followed to solve inter-Palestinian problems and shoulder national responsibility.

Third, on the external level:

The UNLI stresses the PLO's position on the current developments in the Soviet Union, considering what is taking place there an internal affair concerning the friendly Soviet people alone, and no one has the right to interfere in it. We are confident that the Soviet people can overcome this crisis and will emerge from it strong and unified—land, entity, and people—in order to exercise their natural role as supporters of liberation movements in the world, foremost of which is the PLO.

The UNLI calls on the UN secretary general to interfere to stop the Zionist onslaught to judaize Jerusalem and continue to confiscate Arab properties in the city. It also urges the UNESCO to immediately intervene to halt the changing of the historical and cultural nature of the city of Jerusalem.

The UNLI condemns the continued U.S. threats against heroic Iraq as well efforts to get the Security Council to issue unjust resolutions in order to tighten the siege on this country, place it under U.S. trusteeship, and starve its people. The UNLI appeals to the Arab League to intervene to end the suffering of the Iraqi people.

Fourth, activities:

The UNLI urges the masses of our people to emphasize the following activities:

—Considering the first week of September a week of solidarity with our prisoners behind the bars of the occupation's prisons. Protests and sit-ins will be organized inside the offices of the International Committee of the Red Cross.

—The ninth of September will be a day of general strike to mark the intifadah's 46th month.

—The 7th, 14th, 15th, 21st, 27th of September will be days for opening shops from morning to evening.

—Considering the 15th of this month a day for Jerusalem on which citizens will come to the holy city from all over the West Bank and Gaza and from areas behind the green line in order to visit Islamic and Christian religious sites.

—The 17th of this month will be a day of general strike to mark the ninth anniversary of the Sabra and Shatila massacres and to mark the 21st anniversary of the Black September massacres.

—On the 20th September, the UNLI will congratulate our people on the prophet's birthday.

—The 22d of September will be a general strike to protest the feverish settlement campaigns in the center of the city of Hebron.

—The 24th of September will be a day of distinguished struggle against settlement and the herds of settlers.

—The 29th of September will be a day for renewing commitment to the PLO and stressing the unity of our people inside and outside [the occupied territories]. On this day, Palestinian flags will be raised throughout the Palestinian State.

U.S. Behind Targeting of Palestinians in Kuwait

LD3108220691 Algiers Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1702 GMT 30 Aug 91

[Station commentary]

[Text] Brothers, the question is no longer one of a Kuwaiti reaction that could be acclimatized [as heard] as clannish and jahili [referring to pre-Islamic ignorance and barbarism] affectation deriving from a government that fled from confrontation with all its institutions, cadres, and money, leaving to destructive and bloody haphazardness the rest of the patriotic and steadfast Kuwaitis.

That is not all that prompted the Kuwaiti Government to deal with the Palestinians in this fashion. Guilt complex, no matter how developed, does not need all these measures. The Western media, and the overwhelming majority of their Arab counterparts, which were bought off to the most boring and humiliating degree, do not bring the Kuwaiti Government, the state bosses or its leaders, to account over their escape. Nor do they raise this issue at all. On the contrary, there may come a day when we see the Arab media hailing the heroics of the Kuwaiti escapees, from the highest to the lowest echelons. When then the continuation of the Kuwaiti campaign against the Palestinians? Why persecute and expel

them by the hundreds, thousands, and dozens of thousands from outer Kuwait which is so entrenched in the traditions of loyalty, dignity, and pride?

Through this question, we try to sense the reasons for what is happening so that no one uses the Palestinians, as has happened throughout all the phases of Palestinian history since 1936 up until now. So that no one puts the Palestinians under the illusion that their interests were jeopardized in Kuwait as a result of a PLO stance, on the enumeration of which we still disagree with some in essence let alone in its implications and deep reasons.

The continuation of the Kuwaiti campaign in such an ugly and humiliating fashion, in which the Kuwaitis lump together all Palestinians, cannot be caused by the organization's stance—which was balanced during the Gulf crisis—nor by Kuwait's disregard of that stance, from which Kuwait itself and the region still suffer. It was Kuwait, after all, that hastened into the U.S. options and war instead of resorting to the Arab peaceful solution. The cause of the Kuwaiti campaign is very clearly inside and outside the decision of the Kuwaitis themselves, at the same time.

It is inside because they are still behaving with that jahili clannishness that has accompanied them for a long time. The greater their wealth, the farther they go into clannishness, the more they think that one is either with them or against them, and therefore is their enemy, even if one's stance is logical and impartial.

It is outside because the decision to punish the Palestinians is a U.S., not Kuwaiti, decision. The Kuwaitis did not enter Kuwait. It was the Americans who did. It was the Americans who waged the war for their own interests. It is they who have it in their power to fully turn the tables, at just a sign. The Palestinians, whether in Kuwait or elsewhere, have to understand well that they are targeted whether they have a role or not, because the organization does not betray the cause or sell off Jerusalem. Although we have repeatedly explained that Kuwait's Palestinians were made to suffer more than the others by the Iraqi Army inside Kuwait, the issue is not one of a stance but of social and economic pressure leading to extreme political pressure.

IN plainer language, let us revert to the pre-Gulf crisis period when Kuwait in particular had begun politicizing the financing of the organization, to such an extent that the matter affected what Palestinians working there paid by way of taxes. The Kuwaitis had begun to direct money to Palestinian individuals who were chosen either inside or outside Kuwait. As we were anxious to preserve good relations with the Kuwaiti Government, we did not want to resort to the media and the press. We tried to halt this through contacts but were unsuccessful and the matter deteriorated to the verge of confrontation but for the Gulf crisis.

Why then does Kuwait interfere in the financing policy? What did it have to do with the occupied land? What are the interests of the superpower state in our confiscated and occupied land? Does that not seem extremely strange and at the same time funny?

Yes, it does. But amusement ends where we know that the United States and Israel own the decision therein, not the Government of Kuwait. It is perfectly clear that the closer the cloudy date of the peace conference, the more pressure on the Palestinians. We would not be surprised should Kuwait deport dozens of thousands these days, on sure U.S. orders. The U.S. Administration knows well that the organization's refraining from acceptance of the Israeli conditions prevents a settlement because there is no peace without the Palestinians. Massive efforts were made to put pressure on the organization; political, economic, psychological and propagandist efforts, among which is an international political boycott. When all that failed, social pressure was begun by removing the Palestinians to Jordan to intensify the pressure on the organization to force it to give in.

That is not all. There are other reasons and objectives which we will tackle in succession, for what is happening these days is too grave to be treated in haste.

Algeria

State of Siege To Be Lifted 21 Sep

LD0309123891 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in Arabic 1200 GMT 3 Sep 91

[Text] Quoting a reliable source, ESSLAM said today that it has been decided to lift the state of siege on the occasion of the holy prophet's birthday on 21 September. It is known that the state of seige was imposed in accordance with a presidential decree issued on 4 June for four months, which end on 5 October.

Foreign Minister on Mideast Peace Prospects

PM0309104291 Paris LE FIGARO in French 28 Aug 91 p 7

[Interview with Foreign Minister Lakhdar Brahimi by Remi Favret in Algiers —date not given]

[Text] [Favret] Two months from the date scheduled for the international Middle East peace conference, do the positions of the various sides not strike you as dangerously far apart?

[Brahimi] What is way off course are the conditions posed by the Israelis.... Extremely praiseworthy efforts are being made by the international community, and notably by the Americans. These efforts are a step toward the fundamental choices which have been made by the Arabs since 1982, particularly that of moving toward a historical compromise with Israel. We were told that Israel also wanted this historical compromise.

Israel is now backing down and prefers the status quo. It is easy to understand this attitude on the part of the Israelis. As the English say: "They can't have their cake and eat it too." Indeed, at present, they have peace and the territories. But this is not the attitude of a country which wants to be integrated in the region, which wants to live in accord with its neighbors. That would be extremely naive or extremely insincere.

[Favret] What is the cause of the deadlock?

[Brahimi] Taking advantage of their position of strength, the Israelis are now demanding to choose the Palestinians with whom they aspire to negotiate, and are putting forward more preconditions. I told the Americans that, in short, all that remained for the Palestinians was the right to choose their neckties on the day of the negotiations. And I am not even sure that the Israelis will not eventually demand that the neckties be presented to them for prior agreement.

Such an attitude raises questions. Especially since the United States, the USSR, and, what is even more incredible, Europe, are adhering to that attitude. It is extraordinary to say the least that Europe should buy—the word is not too strong nor inappropriate—from the Israelis a silent observer's place at the conference by means of economic, financial, and political concessions.

[Favret] What attitude do you advise the Palestinians to take?

[Brahimi] We are refraining from giving them advice. Since independence, Algeria has constantly defended the Palestinians' autonomous decision-making power. We encourage the Palestinians to have a consistent attitude and to be united.

[Favret] Even if the international conference does not bring a reply to the Palestinian question, will some Arab countries not be tempted to move closer to Israel?

[Brahimi] I can only speak for the Maghreb. There is no problem between Israel and us...aside from the Palestinian question. If we were one day to discuss normalizing relations, we would only talk of one thing—the Palestinian question. Aside from that there is no obstacle or dispute. But this must be settled. There is no question of forgetting the Palestinians and moving on to something else.

I will draw a parallel with South Africa. We only have one problem with that country—apartheid. Aside from that, absolutely nothing separates us. Indeed, I think there would be many things we could do together. And yet, we have followed a rigid boycott because of apartheid. As things move in the right direction, we will certainly move closer to normalizing our relations.

Our position toward Israel is the same. We want to see a De Klerk in Tel Aviv. Then everything would become easier....

[Favret] And can you see that day approaching?

[Brahimi] It would be useful if we were helped to find a De Klerk in Israel. For the time being, he does not seem to exist. But a few years ago nobody saw De Klerk in South Africa either.

[Favret] What is your analysis of the new regional order six months after the Gulf war?

[Brahimi] There is no order at all. It was an absolutely diastrous adventure for which we are paying and will long continue to pay a very high price. The debate on establishing a new regional order has not even started. We are arguing for this debate to take place.

[Favret] Do you not think that Algeria has paid for the choices made by Algerian public opinion during the war?

[Brahimi] Let us say that it took responsibility for the public's choice. Has it paid for it? If you are implying that our relations with anybody have been affected on a lasting basis, that is not the case.

[Favret] Following the confrontation between the Islamic militants from the Islamic Salvation Front and the government, has all danger been averted?

[Brahimi] There are always dangers for the future. The prime minister was right to say that our real problems are not political, they are economic and social. There is a reservoir of discontent among the people. You, I,

anybody can dip into that reservoir at any time. This reservoir absolutely must be emptied. It will be done by drawing up a credible economic recovery program. It is by controlling the economic crisis, that our society's real problems will be solved.

[Favret] The dismantling of the Islamic Salvation Front networks has given rise to the arrest of foreigners, including Frenchmen. Do you, like your Tunisian neighbors, believe in the existence of an Islamic international?

[Brahimi] That is a myth! A Frenchman coming to defend Islam against the threats hanging over it in Algeria—I find it difficult to regard that seriously. I believe that even a Soviet has been arrested! However, we must not be complacent, we must take a firm stand against all this obscurantism which aims to exploit people's poverty to attain goals which have nothing to do with the religious principles they aspire to defend.

[Favret] In this very difficult period which Algeria is experiencing, do you feel you are receiving all the attention you might wish from European capitals, notably from Paris?

[Brahimi] No. Let us say that there is some attention, but it is clearly inadequate. Europe does not realize what is at stake. It does not grasp the difference which there might be for them between the success and failure of our experiment.

[Favret] What exactly do you expect from France?

[Brahimi] It is very simple. In the economic and financial sphere, we have one, two, or at most three years which will be difficult. However, we are determined to launch an economic recovery program now. It is vital to start immediately. It will be more difficult or easier depending on whether we find sympathy, cooperation, and support. France is our main partner. It is therefore in a very good position to help us. It is also in a very good position not to help us.

There is something else which is important to me. The biggest Algerian community abroad is in France. Now this community is at home in France and is largely French. This is not a secondary link between our two countries. We must take an interest in this link, and the positive things it can produce.

[Favret] You have played a very active role in the search for a political solution in Lebanon. Are you now satisfied with the turn taken by the implementation of the Al-Ta'if agreements?

[Brahimi] I was in Beirut a few weeks ago. It is a great pleasure to see that city coming to life again, and to see that there are no barriers at Museum crossing now. It is possible to move freely from Sidon to Tripoli.... And what is much more important is that for the first time the Lebanese believe there will no longer be war between them. There have been truces before, but they did not believe in them. There is peace now. And they believe in it.

It is too easy to say that peace does not exist because Syrian and Israeli troops are still on Lebanese territory. I tell my Lebanese friends: These armies are not there because there is peace. They were there before when there was war. It is a step in the right direction. Rebuilding the army and strengthening the state's authority will restore Lebanese sovereignty.

[Favret] In the Western Sahara, where a peace plan drawn up by the United Nations is due to come into force, Morocco has resumed military operations and is presenting new preconditions....

[Brahimi] There has certainly been an explosion and that worried us. We have reaffirmed our support for the secretary general and the efforts he is making to ensure that the plan is not disrupted. We are encouraging him, as many countries are doing, to show tenacity and, if necessary, firmness in implementing this plan which will end a conflict which, although it did not directly involve us, concerned us because it is taking place on our borders and because it unnecessarily poisoned our relations with our Moroccan neighbors who are desirable partners.

Egypt

Musa, Kuwaiti Counterpart View Regional Events

NC0309155491 Cairo Arab Republic of Egypt Radio Network in Arabic 1400 GMT 3 Sep 91

[Text] Foreign Minister 'Amr Musa and Shaykh Salim Sabah al-Salim al-Sabah, Kuwaiti deputy prime minister and foreign minister, left Cairo for Accra this afternoon to attend the nonaligned foreign ministers meeting opening there tomorrow.

In a predeparture statement, 'Amr Musa noted that Arab coordination is continuing amid the current Arab circumstances. He added that the nonaligned foreign ministers conference, which is being held at a time of great international changes, will discuss many important issues, most notably the Palestinian issue, the situation in the Gulf in the wake of the Iraqi aggression, and Asian and African issues.

Asked about Egypt's views on the Kuwaiti-U.S. agreement for establishing security in the Gulf, 'Amr Musa said that Egypt believes that the agreements Kuwait concludes with other countries are based on its interests, something which Egypt respects. As for the Damascus Declaration, he noted that it is independent of any other arrangements because it aims to achieve unified inter-Arab security and is based on Arab realities and charters. He said the foreign ministers of the Damascus Declaration countries will meet in Cairo in the near future to continue their discussion of security arrangements.

Concerning the Egyptian memorandum to the Arab League refuting the claims contained in the Jordanian white paper, 'Amr Musa said that the memorandum gave an accurate account of events, including Egypt's initiatives to contain the situation, halt the invasion, and

secure an Iraqi withdrawal before the situation deteriorated further. He added that Egypt did its utmost, within the purview of Arab and international charters, to halt the aggression against an Arab country. He said that Egypt made it clear at the time that it rejected any effort to procrastinate, buy time, or secure an advantage for the aggressor. He noted that the Egyptian memorandum responded to the Jordanian white paper point by point to put matters right, clearly outlining Egypt's position, and clarifying undeniable facts about all Egyptian and other Arab attempts to confront what happened and prevent a consolidation of the aggression.

Kuwaiti Foreign Minister Shaykh Salim al-Sabah said that the Kuwaiti-U.S. agreement has not yet been signed, although agreement has been reached on its broad outlines. He added that the agreement is not against the Damascus Declaration, but rather complementary to it, and stressed this declaration's centrality. He noted that the Egyptian and Syrian brothers were the ones who stood by Kuwait in good times and bad.

He said the Damascus Declaration countries will meet in Cairo at 'Amr Musa's invitation to put the finishing touches on the declaration and reiterate the amendments decided at the earlier meeting in Kuwait prior to implementing the declaration.

The Kuwaiti deputy prime minister and foreign minister had arrived in Cairo earlier today.

Security Forces Reportedly Storm Village

JN0309133391 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1200 GMT 3 Sep 91

[Mustafa Bakri dispatch from Cairo]

[Text] Seven people were killed and nine others were injured in yesterday's clashes in al-Samata village in the Dishna district of the Qina governorate, 600 km south of Cairo. The Egyptian security forces stormed the village, using 20 armored vehicles and thousands of troops to search for five persons charged with committing robberies and murders in adjacent areas.

The security authorities asked the people to hand over the five suspects. When the people refused to cooperate, orders were given to the security forces to attack the village. A battle ensued between the people and the security forces that lasted for 16 hours. Some 90 villagers were arrested.

Al-Samata, whose population amounts to 50,000, is one of those villages that are known to possess great quantities of arms and to house a number of outlaws. There have been several fierce clashes in the past between the security forces and the town's people.

'Full Text' of Jordan White Paper Memorandum

NC0309053491 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1340 GMT 2 Sep 91

[Text] Cairo, 2 Sep (MENA)—In view of the present and future historic importance of the memorandum the Government of the Arab Republic of Egypt has submitted to the Arab League's General Secretariat, MENA is supplying its full text.

The Government of the Hashimite Kingdom of Jordan issued a "white paper" on "Jordan and the Gulf Crisis." In the first few pages of the said book, it is stated that the purpose of issuing it is to "explain the policies which the Jordanian Government pursued during the various stages of the Gulf crisis and to present a faithful and factual record of the events and decisions that accompanied that crisis to identify the errors and miscalculations which took place with the hope of avoiding them in the future."

After reviewing this book, the Government of the Arab Republic of Egypt immediately noticed that the accounts included in it are at variance with undeniable facts and distort history in a way that reveals dishonest intentions and infringes on the truth. This makes it the duty of every Arab government that cares about this nation's future to hasten to clarify the truth and put matters in their proper perspective so that future generations will learn the true facts that led the nation to the ugliest catastrophe to befall it in modern times and so that they may draw lessons and morals from those tragic events to prevent their recurrence and the collapse of what remains of the Arab structure.

The Government of the Arab Republic of Egypt sees no need at this stage to examine or refute all contents of the aforementioned book, and will be content to correct certain episodes in which it was a direct party as follows:

First: "After a few pages in which the authors of the 'white paper' try to justify the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait, the book says that Iraqi President Saddam Husayn notified His Majesty King Husayn in a telephone call on the afternoon of Thursday, 2 August, 1990, that the Iraqi Army, in response to a sober request from the Arab countries and not under threat, provocation, or condemnation, would be ready to withdraw from Kuwait, of which it had completed its occupation by then, and that the withdrawal would begin within days and end within weeks."

The Government of the Arab Republic of Egypt in this respect states that it is odd that the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan did not notify Egypt that His Majesty King Husayn had received this "definite" promise from the Iraqi Government to withdraw from Kuwait. The Egyptian Government did not receive word from any fraternal Arab country that they were notified of such a development from the Jordanian Government. In addition, the Arab League General Secretariat's records prove that it had not received any notification on this

from Jordan, despite the fact that the Arab League Council convened in Cairo the next day to discuss this issue. Furthermore, the delegation which represented Iraq and was chaired by Sa'dun Hammadi, deputy prime minister and planning minister, at the time did not refer to this issue. On the contrary, the delegation's positions at public sessions and sideline meetings completely contradicted this approach and was based on Iraq's rejection of any questioning of its right to take the measures it took against Kuwait.

It is a documented fact that neither Iraq nor the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan had notified the extraordinary Arab summit, which was held in Cairo on 10 August 1990, of this development which certainly would have prompted a radical change in the situation if it had reached the assembled Arab leaders.

It also is evident that neither the Iraqi nor the Jordanian Governments had notified the United Nations of this development, despite its importance, although the UN Security Council had started to discuss the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait on 2 August 1990, the day of the invasion itself.

Second: The cited "white paper" was dishonest in recording the details of the meeting between His Majesty King Husayn and President Muhammad Husni Mubarak in Alexandria on the evening of 2 August 1990 (the day of the ill-fated Iraqi invasion of Kuwait). This is clear from the following:

The First Story as Related by the Jordanian Paper

1. Shortly after the telephone conversation "which was held between His Majesty King Husayn and Iraqi President Saddam Husayn," His Majesty King Husayn visited Alexandria to meet with His Excellency President Mubarak, who wished him to visit Baghdad as soon as possible. His Majesty King Fahd supported this wish. It was agreed between His Majesty King Husayn and His Excellency President Mubarak that the Arab League would defer the adoption of a resolution on the invasion until after His Majesty King Husayn's mission in Baghdad had succeeded or failed. His majesty agreed with President Mubarak that he should seek to learn clearly about Iraq's stand on two proposals: First, that Iraq commits itself to withdraw from Kuwait as soon as possible, and second, that Iraq consents to attend a mini-summit in Jeddah to discuss and settle all the points of the Iraqi-Kuwaiti dispute.

The Events as They Really Happened

His Majesty King Husayn arrived in Alexandria at 1800 on the evening of Thursday, 2 August 1990, to discuss the situation with President Muhammad Husni Mubarak. But King Husayn did not bring forward any ideas or suggestions about how to address the crisis. It was President Mubarak who took the initiative to talk about what could be done to rectify the situation resulting from the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait. U.S. President George Bush telephoned King Husayn during the latter's stay in Alexandria and spoke to him in President Mubarak's absence. Bush then spoke to President Mubarak and expressed his concern over the situation and his country's eagerness to contain it and avoid its inevitable repercussions.

At the end of the telephone conversation, President Bush expressed the hope that the Arab states would be able to find a way out of this crisis.

When President Mubarak and His Majesty King Husayn deliberated about the matter, the president suggested that his majesty go to Baghdad to meet with President Saddam and persuade him to accept two things: First, to withdraw from Kuwait without delay, and second, not to hinder the return of the legitimate Kuwaiti Government.

If the Iraqi leadership agreed to these two points in principle, a mini-summit could be held in "Jeddah" to work out the agreement so Iraq could save face.

His Majesty King Husayn did not show enthusiasm for this proposal, as his attention was focused on postponing any Arab decision denouncing Iraq. President Mubarak said that if the Iraqi leadership positively responded to this proposal in its two parts, this would prevent the situation from deteriorating further. But if Baghdad insisted on its demands, the adoption of a firm stand against the invasion would become inescapable. The president explained that the entire Egyptian people completely resented what had happened and wanted firm action to be taken against the Iraqi invasion. He added that the Iraqi Government could not ignore this popular pressure.

President Mubarak said that Egypt would strive to postpone the issuance of any decision by it or the Arab League Council denouncing the invasion until after King Husayn visited Baghdad and learned the exact stand of the Iraqi leadership.

President Mubarak phoned King Fahd Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz, custodian of the two holy mosques, and submitted the idea to him. King Fahd did not object to President Mubarak's proposal to convene a mini-summit in Jeddah if President Saddam agreed to the two points. King Fahd expressed the hope that King Husayn would succeed in his mission in Baghdad.

When President Mubarak felt that King Husayn was hesitant to go to Baghdad to convey the Egyptian message to President Saddam, he phoned the Iraqi president and told him that he had asked His Majesty King Husayn to convey to him an urgent and important message. President Mubarak expressed the hope that the Iraqi leadership would give a positive response, out of concern for the higher Arab interest, primarily Iraq's interest.

From all this, it is clear that there was no "Jordanian initiative" submitted to President Mubarak or King

Fahd. No one had heard of the term "Jordanian initiative," but there was an Egyptian proposal submitted by President Mubarak to His Majesty King Husayn, who accepted it with hesitation.

The Second Story Mentioned in the Jordanian Paper

2. President Mubarak supported these two proposals with clear enthusiasm. He ordered that an Egyptian plane be put at the disposal of the Jordanian foreign minister to transport him to Cairo to deliberate with the Egyptian foreign minister during the meeting of the Arab foreign ministers, who hastened to meet in Cairo to pacify the Gulf states' foreign ministers, who were urging the Arab League to quickly condemn Iraq.

The Events as They Really Happened

Because President Mubarak is the author of the proposal, there is no room to say that he supported it with clear enthusiasm. His main concern was to persuade His Majesty King Husayn to accept it and to go to Baghdad to obtain President Saddam's acceptance of the proposal.

To prepare the necessary atmosphere, President Mubarak expressed Egypt's readiness to postpone the issuance of an Arab decision condemning Iraq until after King Husayn visited Baghdad and learned about the Iraqi leadership's stand on the Egyptian proposal.

For this sake, President Mubarak, who was in Alexandria, held telephone conversations with a number of Arab foreign ministers, including the Egyptian deputy prime minister and foreign minister. Agreement was in fact reached on postponing any decision for some time, pending the outcome of King Husayn's visit to Baghdad. After the Arab foreign ministers agreed on this, the Jordanian foreign minister traveled to Cairo on board an Egyptian plane to participate the Arab League Council meeting.

The Third Story as Mentioned by the Jordanian Paper

3. The next morning, 3 August 1990, His Majesty King Husayn headed for Baghdad, where he conferred with His Excellency President Saddam Husayn and obtained his approval to resolve the crisis within the Arab framework. They agreed that Iraq would attend an Arab mini-summit in Jeddah on 5 August 1990 which the leaders of Jordan, Egypt, Saudi Arabia, and Yemen also would attend. They also agreed on the broad lines of the solution which His Majesty King Husayn had discussed earlier with President Husni Mubarak and King Fahd Bin- 'Abd-al-'Aziz, custodian of the two holy mosques, according to which Iraq would begin a very early withdrawal, the date of implementation to be determined by the summit; that is, within hours. It also was agreed that His Excellency President Saddam Husayn would inform his majesty of the details of the Iraqi stand before his majesty's plane returned to Amman airport from Baghdad.

The Events as They Really Happened

Following telephone calls between President Mubarak; King Fahd Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz, custodian of the two holy mosques; President Saddam Husayn; and a number of Arab foreign ministers, it was agreed that King Husayn should leave for Baghdad the next morning, 3 August.

It is not true that King Husayn had discussed President Mubarak's proposal with King Fahd, as the Jordanian paper claimed. No contact was made between the kings of Jordan and Saudi Arabia while King Husayn was in Alexandria. It was President Mubarak who contacted King Fahd, who agreed to the Egyptian proposal in its two parts. When President Mubarak mentioned that King Husayn was thinking of passing through Saudi Arabia on his way to Baghdad, King Fahd expressed his regret that this would be difficult because he was busy with other engagements.

It is strange that the Jordanian paper mentioned that His Majesty King Husayn "agreed with the Iraqi leadership on the broad lines of the proposed solution," because had this really happened, the entire situation would have changed. All that King Husayn told President Mubarak was that President Saddam Husayn had agreed to attend the mini-summit in Jeddah. When the president asked him about the Iraqi leadership's stand regarding the withdrawal and nonaggression against Kuwait's legitimate government, the king's reply was that he did not discuss these details in Baghdad.

The Fourth Story as Related by the Jordanian Paper

4. While His Majesty King Husayn was continuing his efforts regarding the proposals on which he had agreed with President Husni Mubarak, the Egyptian Government issued a statement condemning the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait.

No sooner had his majesty arrived in Amman than he contacted President Mubarak and notified him of the agreement he had reached with President Saddam, expressing his regrets at the Egyptian statement.

The Events as They Really Happened

The truth of the matter was that President Mubarak had deferred the issuance of any statement by the Arab Republic of Egypt until he had learned the outcome of King Husayn's talks in Baghdad. Indeed, the Egyptian Foreign Ministry statement was not issued until His Majesty King Husayn telephoned the president from Amman to tell him that he had not discussed with the Iraqi leadership the withdrawal or the return of the legitimate Kuwaiti Government.

Moreover, the Egyptian statement was tied to the following demands:

First, the withdrawal of Iraqi troops from Kuwaiti territories;

Second, abandoning attempts to change the Kuwaiti ruling system by force and leaving internal Kuwaiti affairs to the fraternal Kuwaiti people to decide of their own free will and independent decision; and,

Third, that the two countries should pursue a specific course in settling their disputes through friendly dialogue and peaceful negotiations.

It seems that His Majesty King Husayn had thought that demanding Iraq to withdraw and to refrain from interfering in the internal Kuwaiti affairs represented a condemnation of Iraq.

The Fifth Story as Related by the Jordanian Paper

5. It was stated in the white paper that in the course of explaining the Egyptian position, President Mubarak stated that he was subjected to considerable pressure and that he talked with King Fahd, who was infuriated by the situation. President Mubarak told King Husayn that he did not approve of the agreement which was reached between His Majesty King Husayn and President Saddam and that he insisted on the unconditional Iraqi withdrawal from Kuwait and the immediate return of the Kuwaiti ruling family. Hence, the Egyptian president took the same stand adopted by the Arab League foreign ministers, a stand which condemned the Iraqi devastation of Kuwait and demanded its immediate withdrawal.

The Events as They Really Happened

The Jordanian leadership knows very well that President Mubarak informed His Majesty King Husayn that the Egyptian people rejected the Iraqi invasion, regardless of the justifications and excuses made for this invasion. Therefore, it would be completely difficult for the Egyptian Government not to issue a statement regarding the reckless Iraqi invasion.

All that could be done about this was to postpone the issuance of the Egyptian statement and to try to postpone the issuance of the Arab statement or resolution for 24 hours to allow us to determine whether the Iraqi leadership was ready to pledge to withdraw from Kuwait and not oppose the return of the legitimate government—and this is, in fact, what happened. The Egyptian and Arab statements were not issued until King Husayn returned from Baghdad empty-handed. The president did not refer in any way to any pressures being exerted on him, except that coming from public opinion. Furthermore, the president had not changed his position when he stipulated that Iraq should approve the two above-mentioned points. This condition was clear in the president's conversation with King Husayn and with all the Arab officials, who were contacted by his excellency following the outbreak of the crisis.

The Sixth Story as Related by the Jordanian Paper

6. The issuance of the Arab League's resolution late the night of 3 August, condemning the Iraqi invasion, resulted in two things:

First, it frustrated Jordan's efforts to convene a mini-summit.

Second, it caused the Iraqi position to become inflexible.

The Events as They Really Happened

It is evident from the minutes of the Arab League Council's meeting on 3 August that the statement issued by the council condemning the Iraqi aggression against Kuwait and rejecting any effects resulting from it was only issued after two things had been ascertained:

First, that his Majesty King Husayn had not secured from the Iraqi leadership the pledge which would have halted the deterioration of the situation, and he did not say then that he had secured such a pledge.

Second, that Iraq's representative at the Arab League Council meeting adopted an inflexible stand based on the notion that Kuwait is part of Iraq, and that Iraq does not accept any compromise concerning the measures it has taken on this matter.

It is invalid to say that Iraq became inflexible in its position after the issuance of this Arab statement, because the affairs of states which depend on war and peace are important and cannot depend on the issuance of a statement in one form or another.

The Seventh Story Mentioned in the Jordanian Paper

7. The issuance of the Arab League Council resolution on 3 August paved the way for the Arab League to abandon any attempt to keep the crisis with an Arab framework. It also opened the door for international demands, which insisted upon an unconditional and unnegotiable Iraqi withdrawal.

The Events as They Really Happened

We do not know what this means. Does it mean that the Arab League was anxious to abandon its role and was searching for an excuse to forfeit its responsibility and role?

How can it be said that the Arab League Council resolution issued late the night of 3 August opened the door for international demands, when it is documented that on 2 August the UN Security Council issued Resolution No. 660 denouncing Iraq and calling for its immediate and unconditional withdrawal from Kuwait? The UN Security Council resolution was issued one full day before the Arab League Council resolution.

The Eighth Story Mentioned in the Jordanian Paper

8. From the quick way in which the Arab foreign ministers' resolution was issued and from the change in President Mubarak's stand, the Jordanian side understood that the Arab Republic of Egypt, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, and other Arab states had come under immense pressure.

The Events as They Really Happened

This is a rejected claim [words indistinct] most of the Arab states, which adopted a firm stand against the Iraqi invasion.

As we explained earlier, no change had occurred in Egypt's stand on the crisis. From the ill-fated day when the invasion occurred until the day when the Iraqi leadership issued its orders to its forces to unconditionally withdraw from Kuwait, this stand was founded on the basis that a solution required the following elements:

1. Iraq's withdrawal from Kuwaiti territory.

2. Iraq's nonobjection to the restoration of the legitimate Kuwaiti Government.

3. Settlement of all differences between the two countries through peaceful means.

The Ninth Story as Related by the Jordanian Paper

9. When His Majesty King Husayn read the text of the resolution presented by the Arab foreign ministers to their counterparts at the Islamic Conference Organization, he realized that this was a prologue to internationalizing the issue and paving the way for foreign intervention.

The Events as They Really Happened

It is obvious that the cited draft resolution and the subsequent resolution which was adopted at the 19th conference of the foreign ministers of the Islamic Conference Organization on 5 August 1990 added nothing to the texts already included in the Arab League Council's resolution, except for requesting Iraq and Kuwait to respect the requirements of good-neighborliness, halt attempts to change the internal system in both countries by force, respect each country's sovereignty, independence, and integrity, and to demand that [Arab League] member-states refrain from the use of or the threat to use force against the territorial integrity and political independence of either state.

What was it in these texts that could be interpreted as a prologue for internationalizing the crisis and opening the door for foreign intervention; and, what is there to justify such an accusation at the Islamic Conference Organization foreign ministers?

Third, it was stated in the Jordanian paper that the Arab League had completely waived its role as a safety valve during the emergency Arab summit held at President Muhammad Husni Mubarak's invitation on 10 August 1990. Once again, efforts to revive Arab mediation had failed and the conferees found themselves face to face with a draft resolution which was perhaps prepared before the convocation of the conference. The draft resolution was approved quickly. The authors of the Jordanian paper described the resolution adopted by the summit as invalid because it was incompatible with Article 6 [of the Arab League Charter], which stipulates that if a member-state is subjected to aggression by another state, resolutions will be adopted unanimously. The paper adds that Jordan and certain other Arab states viewed this resolution as an attempt to provide cover for foreign intervention before giving sufficient time for an Arab resolution. This, the paper adds, was part of a scheme aimed at destroying Iraq's military and industrial capabilities.

Although the cited resolution was issued by the Arab summit, Jordan resumed its efforts to search for an Arab solution through cooperation with other Arab League members who were involved in the search for a "peaceful solution" via two channels: The first was to establish contacts with the major partners to the international alliance to convince them of the importance of dialogue and persuade them to abandon a confrontation with Iraq, and the second was to intensify contacts with the Arab governments which share Jordan's stands.

That was the story cited by the Jordanian paper on the events surrounding the convening of the extraordinary Arab summit in Cairo on 10 August 1990.

We thought the authors of the aforementioned paper would not let their imagination run so far regarding tangible and documented events, which were witnessed by various Arab leaders and recorded in the minutes of the above-mentioned Arab summit, rendering them easy to verify and place in the right context.

For its part, the Government of the Arab Republic of Egypt finds it its duty to record the events surrounding the convening of the summit, the issuance of its resolutions, and Jordan's position during the summit. We will give a fully accurate account of these events without any additions or omissions.

1. In the middle of the week following the inauspicious Iraqi invasion, a number of presidents of sisterly Arab states contacted President Muhammad Husni Mubarak and suggested that he call for an emergency Arab summit to discuss the serious situation resulting from the Iraqi aggression against a sisterly member-state of the Arab League. After consulting with a number of leaders of sisterly countries, he decided on 8 August 1990 to call for a summit in Cairo.

2. The first step that President Mubarak made after making that call was to send an urgent message to Iraqi President Saddam Husayn, urging him to attend the summit or, if that was not possible, to make sure that Iraq is represented at the summit by a high-level delegation that is qualified and authorized to join the other Arab leaders in reaching an Arab solution. In his message, the president hoped that the Iraqi leadership would appreciate the seriousness of the situation, realizing the grave consequences that could result from its continuation, as well as realizing the necessity of withdrawing from Kuwaiti territories and not obstructing the return of the legitimate Kuwaiti Government to Kuwait. Once Iraq's approval of this was obtained, it would not be difficult for the Arab leaders to work out an agreement

that could preserve Iraq's dignity and Kuwait's sovereignty, thus avoiding the internationalization of the crisis and the involvement of foreign powers.

The first thing President Mubarak did following the arrival of an Iraqi delegation led by Taha Yasin Ramadan and before the conference was convened on 10 August was to receive the entire Iraqi delegation and listen to the reply it brought to his message to President Saddam Husayn. According to the minutes of the meeting, President Saddam Husayn's reply to President Mubarak's message focused on the following points:

A. Iraq considered the measures it had taken toward Kuwait as final, irrevocable, and not subject to bargaining. It did not even accept that the subject be raised during the summit meeting in the first place, because it was an internal Iraqi affair that concerned Iraq alone, and no Arab country should discuss the matter with it.

B. Making any Arab proposals regarding Iraq's withdrawal from Kuwait or the return of the former Kuwaiti Government was rejected in principle.

C. Iraq welcomed the raising of any other Arab issue at the summit.

The Iraqi delegation reiterated this stand in Iraq's speech delivered at the summit.

3. Despite this negative, inflexible stand, the president reiterated his hope that the Iraqi leadership would reconsider its position and take an objective look at the issue, considering the existing basic facts and the dangers facing Iraq and the Arab nation as a result of the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait.

4. At the opening session of the summit conference, President Mubarak called on the conference, in clear terms, to adhere to an Arab solution and avoid internationalization and foreign intervention. In the summit conference, the Arab League did not abandon its role as a safety valve. But Iraq's rejection undermined and paralyzed the Arab League's role and pushed the crisis toward internationalization.

5. The Jordanian paper says that those attending the summit conference found themselves facing a draft resolution perhaps prepared before the conference was convened, and that this draft resolution was approved quickly.

This view contradicts the following facts:

A. No draft resolution was submitted to the conference at the first stages of its meeting. Attention was focused at these stages on listening to the speeches of the kings and heads of state taking part in the conference and on the deliberations which they held inside and outside the conference hall.

B. Some Arab Gulf states then began drafting a resolution for submission to the conference. The draft resolution was submitted to the delegations of the other states to express their views and consult with them on its context and style, and indeed some amendments were introduced in compliance with the wishes of these states. Among these we mention in particular the Algerian delegation led by His Excellency President Chadli Bendjedid.

C. While the draft resolution was being discussed at the conference, some of those present, including PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, suggested sending a delegation of five Arab kings and presidents to Baghdad to try to persuade the Iraqi leadership to agree to withdraw from Kuwait and amicably settle the existing problem between the two states. The name of His Majesty King Husayn was on the proposed list of delegation members. President Mubarak sought the views of the members of the proposed delegation. He turned to His Majesty King Husayn, who was sitting next to him, and King Husayn expressed his unwillingness to participate in such a delegation. When President Mubarak repeated the proposal to his majesty the king through one of the members of the Egyptian delegation at the conference, the king took the same position and refused to join the delegation.

D. Contrary to what the Jordanian paper has said—that the issuance of the resolution by the conference was done "quickly"—it is an established fact that when the PLO chairman again called for the need to give a final contact with the Iraqi leadership a chance before a resolution was adopted on the issue, His Majesty King Husayn looked at President Mubarak, who was chairing the conference, and told him in side remarks overheard by some members of the delegation sitting next to the Jordanian delegation: "I am of the opinion that you put the draft resolution to the vote, and there is no need for continuing this useless talk." The king repeated this request to the president once again.

5. While insisting on leaving the validity and legality of the Arab League Council's 3 August statement and that issued by the extraordinary summit on 10 August to the Arab League itself, the Arab Republic of Egypt would like to stress the following two points:

First, Article 6 of the charter, cited by the Jordanian paper, requires unanimity in one case only; namely, that in which the council decides to adopt certain "measures" to deter the aggression to which a member-state is subjected. Reading the resolution adopted at the summit, it is clear that it did not stipulate the adoption of any "measures" against Iraq, and,

Second, the Jordanian paper overlooked the fact that Article 7 of the charter stipulates that whatever is "decided" unanimously will be binding for all the Arab League members, while decisions adopted by the majority will be binding to the states that "accept them". Moreover, in its first paragraph, Article 6 of the League's statute stipulates that "the council's meeting will be valid if it is attended by the majority of the members, and it will take the decisions by the approval of the

majority of the member-states, unless otherwise stipulated by the charter and this resolution".

It is clear from these two texts that the Arab League founders did not request unanimity as a condition for the validity of the League's resolutions, except in one case only; namely, "the adoption of measures against a member-state".

Over and above, the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan in no way referred to this point when the ninth Arab summit held in Baghdad on 5 November 1978 adopted resolutions suspending Egypt's membership in the Arab League temporarily and transferring the League's headquarters from Cairo to another capital. It is clear from the League's records that the resolution was not adopted unanimously, in view of the reservations made by the Sultanate of Oman, although it included measures beyond those stated in the charter. But we heard no Jordanian official saying that the resolution was invalid or void. In fact, the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan bound itself with the resolution and applied its provisions.

6. Had His Majesty King Husayn been convinced for a moment of what the Jordanian paper said about the draft resolution being "an attempt to provide cover for foreign intervention before giving sufficient time for finding an Arab way out of the crisis, as part of a scheme aimed at destroying the Iraqi military and industrial capabilities", it would have been logical for him to object to the said resolution during the deliberation process. He would have notified the assembled Arab leaders that Iraq had agreed to withdraw from Kuwait on condition that the invasion is not denounced or condemned, as the Jordanian paper claims.

Fourth, although the major point stressed in the different pages of the said paper is that there had been an opportunity to find an Arab settlement for the crisis and that certain Arab powers wasted this opportunity to open the door for foreign intervention, the [word indistinct] of the same paper states that His Majesty King Husayn had sent a message to the American people, stating that Jordan recognizes Saudi Arabia's right to seek assistance from friendly countries as well as the U.S. Administration's right to respond to such a request (Document 8 of the Jordanian paper).

In conclusion, the Arab Republic of Egypt had hoped the release of that paper would be an opportunity for the Jordanian Government to reconsider and take a closer look at the serious repercussions of the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait and to learn from this painful experience, which is the worst ever in the Arab nation's modern history. The authors of the paper, however, have regrettably opted to use it in a fresh attempt, not only to justify and reassemble the Jordanian stand, but also to justify and validate the Iraqi stand and seek the excuses which would make it a natural and inevitable result of the conditions prevailing in the Arab homeland before the invasion.

Egypt has requested the Arab League Secretariat distribute copies of this memorandum among Arab foreign ministers in order to discuss it during their next meeting in Cairo on 10 September.

Commentary Questions Israeli Desire for Peace

NC0409070591 Cairo Arab Republic of Egypt Radio Network in Arabic 1140 GMT 31 Aug 91

[Ahmad al-Qasir commentary: "Israel Has Decided To Render the Peace Conference a Failure Even Before It Starts]

[Text] When the world welcomed the Israeli Government's conditional agreement to attend the peace conference that the United States and the Soviet Union called for during the recent Bush-Gorbachev summit in Moscow, it hoped that all the concerned parties in the Arab-Israeli conflict would proceed with open hearts and sincere intentions to put an end to this chronic regional problem, because the security and stability of the Middle East, and even of the world, will remain threatened until it is solved.

It appears, however, that hope is one thing and action is another. Time has shown that Israel is not serious about establishing a just peace with its Arab neighbors, and it is now exploiting every international development in order to evade the peace process by placing obstacles to any possible success at the hoped-for October conference. This demonstrates that Israel's agreement to attend the peace conference was purely a tactical move which was designed to avoid embarrassing Washington while reducing the global criticism which has been based on Israel's consistent rejection of the international community's desire to establish a just peace in the Middle East. This criticism has become particularly acute because the Arab side has given all it can toward establishing a just peace, has responded to the international community's wishes, and has dealt with the issue in a practical and reasonable way, thus proving its credibility and its genuine desire to live in peace with its neighbor, Israel. Because the Arabs took this position, Israel's rulers have been unable to claim that the Arabs are not serious about the peace process.

Despite its conditional agreement to the peace conference, Israel has shown that it has other intentions. It has been raising problematic issues from the very first day of the conference's announcement. It first raised the question of Palestinian representation, which was followed by the issue of Arab Jerusalem and the ineligibility of its Arab citizens to act as representatives at the conference. Israel then declared that it would not withdraw from the Arab territories occupied in 1967. Israel's rulers have forgotten that any settlement must be based on UN Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338, which reject the forceful occupation of other's territories. Israel has also forgotten that the U.S. moves since March—as President Bush declared—have been based on Israel's acceptance of the land for peace principle.

In line with Israel's rejection of the Arab peace call and its challenge to international will, Israel's rulers have exploited the recent events in the Soviet Union and the world's preoccupation with them to complete their plan to cause the peace conference to fail. Tel Aviv began to issue statements about the possibility of delaying the conference because there is disagreement among the Arabs, a claim which is false.

Then came the greatest Israeli deceit: peace for peace. How could this be? The Israeli rulers showed their true tendency of challenging the international community when Sharon revealed Israel's real strategy of expansion by settling increasing numbers of Jews in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip and by building tens of thousands of new housing units.

Naturally, Egypt warned Israel about the gravity of Sharon's plans and rejected his provocative statements due to its concern about ensuring the success of the peace process and creating the appropriate atmosphere for holding the conference. Regrettably, Shamir and the other Israeli cabinet members came out in succession to give Sharon and his settlement plans their support, going so far as to confirm that this is the Likud government's declared policy, that criticism of Sharon amounts to criticism of Shamir and his government, and that Egypt meant to pressure Israel to make new concession through its criticism of Sharon.

Is there any better proof of Israel's intentions to swallow up the Palestinian territories and its desire to hinder the peace efforts—if not to completely bury them in the first place? Israel should learn from international events that the fait accompli policy has gone out of practice forever. This should be particularly evident from Israel's inability to achieve its expansionist objectives, despite the many battles it fought in the past. It should also realize that the popular era has in fact begun, and that people are capable of imposing their will to live freely over their national soil, regardless of the challenges.

One question remains: How will the international community respond to Israel's challenge, particularly President Bush and his administration, as he is the sponsor of the current peace initiative? The coming days will provide the answer.

Libya

Al-Qadhdhafi on Support for Soviet Coup Attempt

LD0209164791 Tripoli JANA in English 1534 GMT 2 Sep 91

[Text] Benghazi, Al-Fatih [September] 2, JAMAHIRYA NEWS AGENCY —Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdafi asserted that his support for the coup leaders in the Soviet Union was on political and not ideological basis.

He stressed that the failure of the coup was magnificent victory for the third universal theory whose main ideological foundations affirm that the popular masses are stronger than tanks and jets. Colonel al-Qadhdhafi made clear that the congratulatory message he sent to the coup leaders constituted a political bill which he [word indistinct] never compromise and that if met Gorbachev he would tell him that the whole message was in defence of the dignity of the Soviet Union and in defence of the Third World peoples and world peace and that the Soviet Union did not stand with Libya when attacked by America in 1986 during which 170 jets were devoted to the attack against Libyan cities...and the Soviet Union was not informed about the attack although America was supposed to act unilaterally in the world but in agreement with the Soviet Union. [sentence as received]

The leader of the revolution asserted that that was not the only stance of the Soviet Union under Gorbachev but there were other negatives stances including the emigration of Jews, approval of the crushing of Iraq although there was a treaty of friendship and cooperation between the Soviet Union and Iraq and that the Soviet Union abandoned liberation movements in the world.

Pakistan Minister Meets With al-Qadhdhafi

BK0209114491 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in English 1100 GMT 2 Sep 91

[Text] Federal Minister Sardar Mahtab Ahmad Khan had a meeting with the Libyan leader, Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi. They discussed matters of mutual interest.

The minister conveyed felicitations of Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif and people of Pakistan on the occasion of completion of the river project. Sardar Mahtab Ahmed Khan is heading a three-member delegation to attend ceremonies in Benghazi to mark the completion of multi-million dollar river project.

The Pakistan minister also met Libyan ministers for health and social security and discussed with them Pakistan-Libyan cooperation in these fields.

Al-Qadhdhafi Speech to Military Graduates

LD0109171491 Tripoli Libyan Television Network in Arabic 2048 GMT 31 Aug 91

[Speech by Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi to military graduates in Banghazi on 31 August—recorded]

[Excerpts] I am pleased to congratulate you, brother and (?sister) graduates, and to congratulate everyone on the occasion of the 22d anniversary of the revolution and the completion of the first phase of the Great Manmade River. Happy anniversary. Let those who cannot hear me raise their hands. After I start to speak, let those who cannot hear me raise their hands. [passage omitted]

What has to be explained is that a state like Libya with a popular jamahiri system where it is said that all tasks have to be carried out by the people [word indistinct] the bearing of arms, and the abolition of traditional military institution has been announced. On the other hand anyone may observe military ceremonies and parades,

and see military uniforms and ranks—which seems to contradict the concept of the armed people and the abolition of the regular army. The issue of the establishment of the jamahiri system is a historical matter which has been settled. Anyone who goes back on it would consider himself [word indistinct]. [passage omitted]

We are serious about this and the Libyan people must assume the responsibility of defense. This is to say that no one can change this aspect. I see that military ranks, colleges, parades, and [word indistinct] exist; one would believe in the story of the armed people and believe that the people would defend itself and that the conventional military institution should be done without; he might say this is not true. No, one has to be sure that the people will arm itself and will assume the duty of defending itself. This is not just talk. When the topic of defense becomes a reality, when we join active movements, then we will become sure that it is the people which performs that duty. One might ask why should Libya abolish the Army and only retain the armed people when we live in a world that is teeming with regular armies. [passage omitted]

Algeria fought France without a regular army. It won a victory over colonization, which had lasted 130 years. Had there been a regular army, it would not have been able to oust France. Algeria was part of France whose regular army and generals were defeated. They were defeated by naked and barefoot people; the Algerians were without ranks or military uniforms.

We resisted Italy for 20 years without a regular army. We would have surrendered in a day or two if it had been a regular army. The Turkish army was a regular one; it surrendered immediately in October 1911. [passage omitted]

We are aware of the lessons to be drawn, and we will not risk or endanger our fate and follow classical tradition, even if they are striking; they are useless. Because we are serious, we must triumph on our land and defeat aggression. Consequently, this system relies on the armed people, and we rely on a regular military machinery.

If Iraq had fought with 10,000 [men] armed with medium weapons and missiles, western forces would have been massacred. However, Iraq fought with a regular army and was defeated by a stronger army. [passage omitted] I am saying this because Libya is exposed to danger, the Arab nation is exposed to danger and aggression, and because the enemy is present in Arab land in Palestine. Do not listen to, do not believe that the Israelis are making peace or want peace. The Israelis have one condition; they want every Arab state to put down their mark and recognize it. They would be the stronger, and conditions will be imposed on the Arab state. It must not arm itself, must not fight, and must not develop itself, otherwise they will strike against it and [word indistinct]. [passage omitted]

When Syria rejected the regional conference—because the regional conference should indeed be rejected, because the talk was at first about negotiations under the auspices of the United Nations—finally they said, all right, an international conference. The Arabs accepted the international conference. It transpired that they were talking about a regional conference, instead of the international one. The Arabs said fine, a regional conference. They told them a regional conference without the Palestinians, no talk about Jerusalem; this is the eternal unified capital of the Jewish state. If this is the case, to negotiate with whom then, if the Palestinian is excluded from the conference, the basic side in the issue? And if Jerusalem, a basic issue not only for the Arabs but also for the Muslims, is excluded in its capacity as a capital for the Jews? If this is the case with whom do we negotiate and about what? They said fine come and negotiate. The negotiations are about recognizing us, that is all. No talk about Jerusalem and the participation of the Palestinians or the United Nations. Syria rejected this. In the first statement by the Israelis, by the prime minister of the enemy, after the Syrian rejection of this conference, he said war makes Syria accept this conference. This means that he is confident that the Arab regular army, whether the Libyan, the Syrian, Egyptian or the Iraqi, would be defeated, because the matter is clear in relation to classical armies: the one whose weapons are mightier and whose army is bigger, triumphes. This is known. In classical war, no small army defeats a big army. [passage omitted]

But the armed people turn all these calculations upside down. When we emphasize this point, it is because no one has given us a guarantee that your country Libya is safe from an aggression. On the contrary, they have ambitions toward our soil, sea, and land. You probably find things strange: America asking an Arab country, like Egypt in al-Sadat's time, to take part in the attack against Libya. This could have happened in 1984, or in 1980, or in 1979. An American-Egyptian attack could have happened against Libya without us knowing the reason for their attack on us. I mean this would have been a surprise even to the world. [passage omitted]

Egypt told America no, we will not take part with you. America said fine, give us part of your territory. Allow us to attack from Egyptian soil. They told the Americans: We cannot embroil ourselves in a war against an Arab country, a neighbor. This is the responsibility of America. They went round this by attacking in the Gulf of Sidra, and then came the big Atlanticist aggression in 1986.

Therfore, there is no guarantee that aggression will not take place. One should not say: We are a peaceful and good people; we are not terrorists; we are making the Great Manmade River; we are conquering the desert; we are making fish farms; we are ploughing the earth; we are opening factories to end backwardness and schools for our children; we are producing clothes for ourselves; we are trying to achieve self-sufficiency in bananas; and the rest of our civilized endeavours. Therefore why should we be attacked? Despite it all aggression might take place against you. And if aggression takes place we cannot face up to it with conventional weapons. What I am saying

here is something fateful and serious, i.e. it is revolving around the fate of a people and the life of a nation. [passage omitted]

What I would like to assert here is the fact that the duty of military academies and technical schools and the General Staff is to train the people. However, if you are going to remain in the barracks, following your graduation, waiting only a military confrontation I think such a program is doomed to fail and is unacceptable to me. One can say here that I should issue a order to this effect. However, an order can only be implemented successfully if those who are concerned by it are able to understand it. If you are going to issue an order to someone who cannot understand it he will not know how to handle it.

Classical military thinking is disappearing as the era of the masses [jamahir] asserts itself. You have noticed yourselves that in the Soviet Union, with the strongest army in the world—the Soviet army is stronger than the American army—where the ministers of defense and interior, the head of the intelligence, the vice president of the Soviet Union, and maybe the prime minister; all the leaders met and carried out a coup using the army. However, the masses encircled the tanks [bringing them] to a halt. Well, this is what we have been asserting ourselves. How many times we have asserted that the masses should be much stronger than the tanks? Someone might have thought this is was illogical: How can the masses be stronger than the tanks.?

There is no hope left for anyone to carry out a military coup even in the Soviet Union. Even those huge tanks and weapons, some 7000 nuclear missiles—there were reports that the Ministry of Interior, the minister of interior was with coup, has its own 300,000 strong force with 2,000 aircraft which were coupled with the border guards' weapons, which belong to the KGB—could not secure success for the coup. The coup failed because people went to the streets to denounce it. And this was an splendid victory for the Third Universal Theory as far as the ideological aspect of it is concerned. [applause]

However, someone might say why did you then congratulate the plotters? Yes, this was a political stance: It is not an ideological one. I knew that our theory succeeded when the masses triumphed over the tanks and the aircraft—a matter which has reaffirmed the fact that we are now in the era of the masses and that no one can dictate anything to them. However, as far as the political side is concerned, and given the situation in today's Soviet Union—and we will be saying exactly the same thing to Gorbachev if we meet with him face to face—we have gained nothing from developments there.

Through a resolution, which was supported by the Soviet Union at the [UN] Security Council, Iraq is being crushed. Iraq is being really crushed; they are annihilating her. Alright, Iraq was maybe mad; she made mistakes by trying to take over Kuwait in an inter-Arab rivalry and conflict, some of which are not known to the UN Security Council. Let us assume that it was a great mistake. What was required was the withdrawal of Iraq from Kuwait. They fought against Iraq compelling her to leave Kuwait. Once she left Kuwait and recognised Kuwait's independence and borders, as Kuwait wanted them, solemnly swearing that she will never commit further aggression against Kuwait—there was not a condition which Iraq accepted then refused to comply with—why should you then crush it like barley? Why? Their answer was it was done in accordance with the Security Council resolution. So why did the Soviet Union not say it was impermissible to crush Iraq and annihilate it once she left Kuwait, despite the fact that there is a treaty of friendship and cooperation between the Soviet Union and Iraq? Such a treaty compels the Soviet Union to stand by the side of Iraq if war breaks out and aggression is waged against Iraq.

Fine, this is one, what did we benefit from the Soviet Union? Had the Soviet Union been the Soviet Union of the earlier Communists, they would have never allowed the states of the West to crush an Arab state: crush it and turn it into small particles in this way. Of course, Kuwait was Iraq's mistake, and its second mistake was that it fought with a classical army in the face of a mighty power. Why did it fight with a classical army? Had it sent guerrillas there, they would have occupied the whole region. We said that the armed people attack like locusts and defend like hedgehogs, this is the rule. [passage omitted]

You tried the air force in Chad when the agent Habre was there. The air force played a role, but what was the result? Let us assume that we went and destroyed Faya [Largeau]: In relation to an agent like Habre, who does not care for his people, let us assume that you destroyed Faya, so what? He does not care! And you, having destroyed Faya, what can you do with it? You cannot place an army there, at a distance of 4000 km. You destroyed it and returned. After a year, two years or several months, people arrive there once again. He (Habre) finds 500 poor people dead, that is it, he throws them out and brings 1,000 poor people and puts them in this town. What do you do? This is like a herb, you harvest it and it regrows. [passage omitted]

We do not fear the American, the European, or the Israeli air forces, or their missiles. For what do we fear? We fear for the things which we have founded. By God they could halt the power stations; they could hit them. You say, we Libyans have grown accustomed to electricity; we cannot live without it, without fridges, light and air-conditioning. If the electricity is cut off, we are harmed. This is true, but a country not accustomed to electricity, hit it with 1000 missiles. It probably doesn't have a power station. You have huge factories and they are hit, this could cause you harm. You have bridges, roads, airports, you have naval bases, you have ports. It is true that these things are liable to be destroyed by missiles or aircraft, and consequently you think of way to counter this weapon. Either aircraft, or air defense, or missiles with which you can hit the bases from which the enemy sets out. This is all self-defense that falls within

the context of international legitimacy and Article 51 of the UN Charter, the legitimate right to self-defense. [passage omitted]

But when the enemy lands on Libyan soil, for instance, here comes [the role of] the armed people, no role for the tank or the missile. The people must fight, turning this land hot. Like mosquitos, we do not allow it to sleep. [passage omitted] Then we attack it at the place where it is present. Only the armed people can do this. [passage omitted]

Do not think that we are running a regular army in Libya with which we fight the United States, Europe, or even the Israelis. No, [those] who believe in such a thing are living an illusion; they are deceiving themselves, their peoples, using the army for parading and when things happen, they turn out to be a zero. Everything we want is serious.

This is your message. Those who have graduated, those who are about to graduate, those who have graduated, officers, NCOs, all those who are armed and trainees; this is their message: Be ready to be allocated to the people so that every region and position would start to be independent and defend themselves. Even without weapons, it would not have been possible for Italy to occupy Libya if we had been prepared and aware. [passage omitted]

We hear about Muslim brothers who say that the prophet fought with swords, spears and camels at the Uhud, Badr, Khandaq and other battles. Later, in this era they bought knives. In Algeria they imported 5,000 knives and 1,000 swords from China, they seized vehicles and removed the units underneath them—the [protective] plate underneath vehicles—and made them into swords. They said that they wanted to declare Jihad in Algeria with the sword and the knife. This is a worn out and backward mentality. [passage omitted]

To continue what I said on the ideological angle and the Soviet people's triumph over tanks; this is our theory and ideology. Yesterday, the Mayor of Moscow announced that in October [the principle of] "the dwelling for its residents" will be implemented in Russia; the dictum [maqulah] of "the dwelling for its residents." We are convinced that the Soviet Union, America and, God willing, Mars—if there are beings there—will inevitably be transformed into the Jamahiri system. This is the era of the masses, and all the dictums included in the Green Book will become the world's constitution. There is no doubt about that. We are 100 percent certain of that.

However, I said that from the political angle we have not benefited from the currently existing Soviet political situation. Iraq was crushed by a decision in which the Soviet Union participated. So, why should we applaud Gorbachev when he crushed an Arab country? He was a member [of the UN Security Council] with the right to veto. He could have said "no, no." He also had the power to repel the others. Why did he not say it. Why this hypocrisy toward Arabs? On the personal level, I do not dislike him. The first time we saw each other we embraced and greeted each other. When I saw him for the first time I knew he would not be able to cope with the Soviet Union. Later, I found him to be a good man, not aggressive and I did not get the impression of superpower arrogance or anything from him. Maybe Brezhnev, Kosygin, Bulganin or Stalin were more arrogant. He was a modest man at the personal level. By God, I regard him as a friend at the personal level; a good man. When I saw him, I did not at all dislike whom I met. This is at the personal level. However, the issue is not personal. What did we gain from Gorbachev at the political level? Why should we congratulate him? Why this hypocrisy? He is the one who has filled Palestine with Jews. He is the one who agreed to the crushing of Iraq after the latter withdrew from Kuwait. He is the one who has allowed America to come and go in the world as it pleases, and rule over us all—because he handed over the leadership to it without any justification. Why should we applaud that regime or that person? [passage omitted]

Well, we are sorry to see that during the reign of Gorbachev the Soviet Union is being done away with in this way and all the peoples are thus facing the American monster: He gives America a free hand and he releases the Jews against us and he agrees to let an Arab country be (?crushed), and he abandons his friends and he abandons the communist parties and he abandons the progressive states and the revolutionary states and the peoples who have been struggling and who were involved and engaged in this struggle for a very long time while they relied on the Soviet Union. He abandoned them while they are half-way there or in the last stage.

How can this happen? It is inconceivable. Probably, one has to reach a degree of hypocracy, fear or indifference to applaud the regime which exists in the Soviet Union today. No, not at all; there has not been any change. What is the meaning of change and what have happened if such a change [the coup] had succeeded? It would mean that the Soviet union would return as a deterrent power against America once again. Only a hypocrite would not adopt this stand.

It is very important that another superpower should emerge to stand up to America. This is important for peace and important for all the peoples of the world. It is dangerous to all mankind to be under the mercy of one strong power. How can I not applaud this [coup] and send congratulations. I still stick by the telegram which I sent and by every word I said in that telegram. It is regarded as a political odyssey. I will never drop it. [applause] Indeed I would not mind at any time to let Gorbachev read it, so that he can read in it that the citizens of the Soviet Union do not want imperialism to trample on them with its dirty boots. Who says that the boots of imperialism are clean? (?This is why one is concerned) and afraid. Those boots are dirty. Very much so. Every colonialist is dirty. Even if a Libyan is elected by the imperialism his boots are dirty.

I said that a humiliation took place against the Soviet Union without any justification. This is correct. The telegram (?does not) defend the Soviet Union and its dignity. But it defends the third world countries and world peace if the Soviet Union returned once again. How can the strong Soviet Army which is ten times stronger than America be defeated without a war? Can one applaud Gorbachev for a thing like this, that is the Soviet Army is defeated without a war. If a third world war had broken out and all the nuclear weapons were used and America triumphed over the Soviet Union; what would America's conditions have been? America would have made it a condition that he abolish socialism; abolish communist parties; dissolve the Warsaw Pact; dissolve COMECON—the economic cooperation between the East European states; abandon his friends; abandon Cuba; abandon Libya, Angola, Mozambique, and Benin. Abandon all his friends in the world; Vietnam and Laos. Abandon all of them and withdraw his forces from everywhere, from Eastern Europe. Give the Baltics their independence. Give the Asian republics their independence. Give the Ukraine its independence. I think that if they had triumphed over him these would have been the conditions they would have imposed on him. After the death of millions by all the atomic bombs, they would come up to impose conditions on him like these. These conditions have now been realized without a war. Who then is the one who would applaud them? We are not hypocrites. A Soviet citizen who has a conscience or who is free would not accept this humiliation.

Also, someone would come along to say that through this stand we have lost the Soviet Union. We had lost the Soviet Union a long time ago. It used to be with us. When they struck us in 1986; was it conceivable that 170 planes with their roar in the skies about 4,000 miles [from the Soviet Union] and the Soviet Union was unaware of them or was not following them by the hour and by the minute? Is it conceivable? (?we were hit) I wish they had told us: Al-Qadhdhafi, there is an attack on your children by 170 planes coming in one of two hours. At least (?one can do something), or: Your country and your capital are going to be raided by 170 planes. They did not say even these things.

We were unaware until the bombs were dropping on us. We knew it was probable an attack would take place on us. But we thought it would be on a military target; a long range missile may be launched against military targets (?but not) bombs cascading on our homes while we are asleep in Banghazi, Tripoli, Bab al-'aziziyah; and on women and children while the Soviet Union had knowledge of this. Therefore, we lost the Soviet Union a long time ago.

If Brezhnev, Bulganin, Kosygin, Khrushchev or anyone else was there a thing like would not have happened. It would not have happened. They would have said no to them. America does not act in the world as it pleases. These things had been agreed upon after World War II and after the Soviet Union sacrificed millions. It sacrificed very huge potentials for the sake of having the veto in the United Nations Security Council. Consequently, on the basis of this America cannot act as it pleases in the world. It is because the Soviet Union was a partner with it, a partner with it in destroying Nazism and a partner with it in World War II. From its own position, the Soviet Union can say to America: No.

Why is it that the Soviet Union can do these things and yet it did not say: No. Therefore, we lost it a long time ago. I wish it had adopted merely a negative stand, but it was a positive stand against us. Letting Jews emigrate; the agreement to crush Iraq. I would not say striking Iraq but crushing Iraq. Abandoning the liberation movement. Why? Is the liberation movement something bad—peoples will be liberated and peace will be realized? We are not trembling so that we feel sorry or hypocrites in order not to take this stand.

The telegram had an assurance about the strategic friendship with the Soviet Union. Strategic means we were friends of the Soviet Union before Gorbachev. If he wants to keep it up he can and we welcome it. If he does not want to maintain it he is free to do so. But no matter how long colonialist empires rampage and no matter what force they display or think that they have domination, they are deluded. In the end the peoples will triumph. [passage omitted]

Hitler said that Europe and afterward the whole world constitute a vital area for Germany. He said Germany was above all others. He became conceited as he possessed a huge might with which he could rule the Earth. But where is Hitler now? The people now curse him and he has been cast in the dustbin. The peoples triumphed in the end. [passage omitted]

The Romans, the Byzantines, American imperialism, Soviet imperialism, and all others believe that they are there and that is the end of the matter. Britain used to call itself the Empire on which the sun never sets. Where is Britain now? It imports half of its food from the outside world. Whom does Britain frighten now? It is afraid of a bunch of Irish. Thatcher ran away through the kitchen. They attacked her. The Prime Minister of Britain [word indistinct] in the kitchen, in the heart of London and in the heart of its country. There was also Major meeting with [word indistinct] and they fired a mortar at him. [words indistinct]. They fired a mortar and destroyed the house he was meeting in. [passage omitted]

The United States is composed of blacks, Reds, Arabs, Jews and Yankees. It is a mosaic. 60 percent of its fleets are now idle without repair. It has aged. Its capitalism is intended for making profits only. The missiles, the aircrafts and the guns used by the American soldiers are bought from a capitalist company. The Government purchased them from a company. Such a relationship cannot continue. The company wants profits and gain.

This cannot continue. Capitalism is bound to end. It is illogical for exploitation to triumph. It is illogical for oppression to triumph.

Socialism is the one which will triumph for sure. Socialism has been explained in Chapter 2 of the Green Book. Such a socialism has not existed before. The world has two types of Capitalism: private capitalism and government capitalism in the East. One has already collapsed and died while the other is awaiting its turn.

The one that triumphed is the new socialism, the socialism of the peoples. [passage omitted] This is the one which will triumph. Why? Because it [Libya] did not bring water from the infidel Americans.

It has oil. Before the revolution... What were the royalists [in Libya] doing about the oil? Imagine, there was a plant owned by a foreign company, as is the case in the Arab countries. They have plants owned by foreign companies. It was not the governments, or their planners, or their chamber of deputies or the people that thought of [extracting] oil. It was the foreign monopolist company, which set up a chemical plant, that did so. Why? Because it is the one that runs it. It said to them: You have oil, and so we can set up a plant for exploiting it. You take some of it. But this some was not used to benefit the people but to build palaces abroad. [passage omitted]

This is our home, Libya. And we should fortify it. But how to fortfify it? With the armed people, the fortification of the coast line and training because we are trying to develop and educate ourselves; trying to practise agriculture and industry. We are going to develop further the manmade river and make it reach Tunisia and Egypt. We have been asking the latter to give us the Nile; thanks be to God, we have now the Great Manmade River. The next phase will be, God willing, from Tubruq to al-Sulum and Mirsa Matruh, and they might by then give us the Nile. [applause]

The same thing will apply to Tunisia, we must take it [the river] to southern Tunisia. There is plenty of water and we are ready and committed to do it because it our land, our people and kinfolk there. There is no difference between a Tunisian, a Libyan, and an Egyptian; we are all one people. Otherwise we will still be kidding ourselves.

Egypt did not, at the worst possible time, allow America to attack us; Italy did because it is not Arab. Spain also did. They allowed the American 6th Fleet to rely on them to attack us in 1986. Egpyt, despite [the difference] in our political stance, did not because at the end we will still be Egypt and Libya; they are two brotherly countries. Egypt, in the worst of al-Sadat's days and now during the presidency of President Husni Mubarak, although there was a rift between us, did not participate with an alien nor did it allow him to use its territory because it is an Arab territory and people. And of course they were right in their perception that [the rift] was temporary and we will be brothers once again with the same fate. Enemies will be happy if we are not together. Even the Israelis said very well. If Egypt recognizes us it will be isolated from the rest of Arabs. Their goal will be attained by the isolation of Egypt and the creation of friction among Arabs. When we discovered [their intention] despite [Egypt's] recognition [of Israel] we still go hand in hand to thwart one of the Zionist policy aims and make it fail.

We told them, I mean the Libyans who were doubting unity and defense, those were arrangements which were needed for your own house and also needed for Libya. However, today we are in a better position: i.e. we are in unity with Egypt, Tunisia, Algeria, Niger, Mali, Chad, and Sudan. And this is an excellent position. We resisted their attack notwithstanding the bad circumstances. During the era of al-Sadat and Bourguiba their two radios were exchanging the same [anti-Libyan] tune. The Egyptian radio used it first before sending it to the Tunisian radio to use it during the evening. That was during the days of al-Sadat and Bourguiba. However, our resolve did not flag at all; we continued our challenge and our resistance.

They all fought against us in Chad. We did not retreat or surrender; we fought to the end. We [preferred] to be killed to be taken prisoner but we did not retreat. They wanted to reach our territory; they wanted to reach Aouzou [words indistinct]. We noticed that there was a serious fighting then. France, America, and others where all with them. They all boasted; but we annihilated them in one day, in Aouzou.

Tunisia cannot say this is Libyan and this is Tunisian, inside Libya and inside Tunisia. In fact, God brought the 7 November change of regime and this was a big relief; we did not dream of it. Tunisia was not like this. We allowed President Husni Mubarak the opportunity to get to know us, and us to get to know him, but when al-Sadat [word indistinct] matters accumulated during the al-Sadat era. Now when we contacted each other and saw other, we allowed each other the opportunity to know the other. Now we and Egypt can say this we can do and this we cannot do. This we do today and that tomorrow. And this is what is required: to be in agreement, our future is one and our interest is one [applause and chantings]. Despite this, that is, first of all, our relationship is now, thanks be to God, the climate is unionist, and the slogans we used to raise 20 years ago on our own are now shared by all the Arabs [sentence as heard]. They all support Arab union, and it could have taken place last year had it not been for the problem of Kuwait. Now we are talking about unity with Tunisia, Algeria, Egypt, the Sudan, and even with Chad, which used to be an enemy and where colonialism and agents were present. We are talking about unity, fraternity, and neighborliness. This is an excellent situation. We are determined and, thanks be to God, we have not changed. [passage omitted]

Despite all these circumstances about which I am talking, we of course, wish for peace and wish that America would understand that Libya cannot be made compliant, that people cannot be subjugated, that the

sun sat on the colonialist empires, they are finished and were thrown into the waste basket and that a new era of harmony and international cooperation should arrive, to eliminate the problems of the environment and preserve it, and to get rid of mass destruction weapons and bring about total disarmament, and to confront starvation and dangerous diseases, transform the soil, the climate, and think once more about land reclamation. We would have liked this. We have always looked at America as not having an American race. America is a depot for all people. Even you who are in front of me, if you would like one day to emigrate to America, in ten years you become Americans. Thus America is not a nation, a race or a blood, so as to say this is the Mongolian or the Tatar race. They are not like us, so as to say the Arab race or the Arab nation. America is a depot for all mankind. We used always to say America should not be hostile, because it is not a racist nation in itself; it has all peoples. Part of every people on earth is in America. Thus America should be for all, owned by all and its scientific progress in the interest, and at the service of, mankind. In fact I find it strange for a ruler in America to involve himself. The United States should not even make aircraft carriers and weapons, and say I am a depot for all people, because we do not have one race. The one who arrived tomorrow in America or the day after tomorrow becomes an American. [passage omitted]

Consequently, it is our right [sentence incomplete]. The United States should make its scientific development and capabilities and even America's grain fields available to all peoples. The peoples have rights on America. We would have liked the United States to have been like this and not one of fleets, blockades, aggressions, AIDS, cancer, and such pests that it exports to mankind.

This is what we are fighting against. We are fighting against this type of mentality that diverted the United States, and not against the United States itself. [words indistinct]. This is because we have created the United States. All the peoples have helped to create America.

The Red Indians say that they were in Libya and then went to America where they became the indigenous people there. Many Arabs had also migrated from Andalusia after their occupation of Andalusia and Spain. Instead of returning, they changed their religion and their names and went to America.

Today, we have an Arab people in America. The Jews too have people in America. Africa has 25 millions in America, forming a whole black nation in America. The Red Indians are in America. The other European and Asian peoples are also in America. The Japanese, the Indians, and the Pakistanis, are [among] the components forming the American people. There is no American people that sprang from America. All of them were migrants from abroad.

We want America to realize the facts about itself and that it belongs to all, and that it is the right of all the peoples that contributed to the creation of the American nation, that grouping and those scientists and the American progress which they all helped to create having rallied and went to America and cooperated to create this progress should bring good to the entire human race. [as heard]

The United States should not be an aggressor state. What makes it resort to producing ICBMs? If Hitler was mad, the United States should not have embroiled itself in war against Hitler. If the Europeans want to fight each other, let them do so.

Why should the United States drag itself into such a situation and become hated and thus be forced either to fight the entire world or lose the whole world. Now it finds itself in a dilemma. It finances the USSR and it finances Chad, Taiwan, and the Israelis and it arms them and defends them in all continents.

Everywhere it sets up bases. Everywhere it creates agents. Everywhere it gives money and everywhere it gives wheat. This [word indistinct] does appear? Either it loses them or it fights them. It fights here, and it fights in Latin America and in Africa and in Europe and in Asia. It fights the whole world. Why does it embroil itself to such an extent?

Whatever they say about us, ours is the voice of reason and maturity. Indeed, some Americans listen to what we say and trust our words and support us. I, personally, receive numerous and uncalculable letters from ordinary Americans abounding with support for us. They tell me: we are with you against Reagan and we side with you against so and so and against aggression, and we are with your people because you are proceeding on the right course. Please forgive us for what those who want to terrify you are doing. Not all the Americans are like this, they say. [passage omitted]

Thus the American people do not hate us as people. Yet our Arab brothers in Egypt, Morocco, and Algeria say to me even until yesterday: Please do not open the American dossier, please listen to us and we will improve the relations between Libya and the United States. I told them: No. I said: Firstly this matter concerns the Libyan people. We can submit this to the Libyan people and to the people's congresses who will decide our foreign policy and how to deal with the United States. But even before this, as one of the Libyans, I am confident we have no objection to Algeria, Egypt, or Morocco trying to repair relations between the United States and Libya. This is because we have no interest in America's enmity. On the contrary, it is in our interest to settle everything with America. But when the United States antagonizes us, we cannot say: Please do not be hostile to us? We cannot do so. We have not gone to America and we have not aggressed upon it.

The important thing is that in the days of al-Sadat, there was an Arab witness acting against us. He went to the Americans saying the Libyans were so and so. He was doing so in addition to Zionism. The Arab and Zionist

propaganda have played a major role, in fact, in distorting the picture of Libya among the Americans.

Now the situation has changed. One of the two pillars [al-Sadat] has collapsed. Now what Egypt tells the Americans about Libya is positive. This is because President Husni [Mubarak] and his aides and the Egyptian press and media reflect the opposite of what used to be reflected by Egypt in the old days. Now a positive picture is conveyed. [passage omitted]

Today, everything that comes out of Egypt is really in Libya's interest. And anything that comes out of Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia, is a testimonial in favor of Libya. The story about terrorism is known; the entire world detests terrorism. This is true, you may call it what you like: bravery or whatever, we do not care. To hell; but today the issue of terrorism is a detested question in the world. You cannot defend yourself from this stand. Consequently, no one should place himself in the dock on this issue. This is a dirty issue: the story of terrorism.

However, we must differentiate this from armed struggle which we support. We support the sacred struggle for just issues like the palestinian issue; the liberation of the peoples; their unity and their independence and separate it from terrorism. They must understand that we are against terrorism and we hate terrorism and we know that it is never in our interest to be linked with terrorism or to (?support) any terrorist operation. We know that this harms us and it is not in our interest. The whole world today abhors terrorism.

Once, when I visited Austria I went to a shop. As soon as I entered the shop there were calls: al-Qadhdhafi, al-Qadhdhafi. There was a woman from Central America shouting; she wanted to get out of the back entrance of the shop which did not have a back entrance. She collided with the wall. She had to come back. I said to her not to be afraid. Afterward they tried to restrain her. She said: Qadhdhafi, terrorist. She saw me and said: Why are you laughing? I said why not. You must not laugh, she said. Blood flows out of you; knives and explosions and I don't know what. [words indistinct] The old lady in the shop took a picture of mine out of the drawer and she said would I sign it? I said to her how come you have been keeping it? She said: I know you. I know you very well. Our Chancellor Kreisky is your friend and he goes to visit you. Al-Qadhdhafi is a good man and here is his photograph and it is a good thing that he came so that he can sign it. I signed it for her. I said to her [words indistinct]. She said I have another photograph: Will you sign it? You can see how she changed. It was a very short situation a mere few minutes, [words indistinct] like what the hostile press and Zionism had been saying—that is that al-Qadhdhafi stands on top of a pile of bodies. When they show your picture they show you (?alongside) human skulls standing on top of them. [passage omitted]

I said to them: Brothers; on the occasion of conquering nature and desertification and the change in the world's climate and the soil, we now are starting to transport water in this form for the first time in the world. We said to them: We must stop the policy of terrorism, threat, boycott, siege, the aircraft carriers, missiles, and the weapons of mass destruction, and move toward the joint issues of the human community. We told them that there is a very serious report compiled by the Americans on the state of the world in the next 100 years beginning in the next 30 years. It is they who wrote the report, a very serious report. [passage omitted]

These forecasts, which God forbid, are very grave. The Americans are supposed to be concerned about them, but they (?don't acknowledge) they exist. The report says that 500 million persons in the world are starving. Why don't we think about them? It also says that the Arabs have 350 billion cubic meters of water out which they only exploit 160 billions. [passage omitted]

The free unionist officers [who took power in September 1969] took a very serious risk, risking their lives and their families and children for a cause which deserves that one sacrifices himself. We still make efforts. We are still exposed to danger for things which we believe are worth sacrificing oneself for. It is the interests of our people. We did not come to rule nor did we distribute positions among ourselves or distribute oil. Thank God we are well known in the world for our austerity and sufism and simple living [applause]. We recovered the our oil money and we built with it a manmade river which belongs to the Libyan people, and built factories for the Libyan people and hospitals which belong to the Libyan people and schools and educational institutes, universities, academies which belong to the Libyan people. Libya is the 10th state which has 24,000 kilometers of road network. What it means? It means that they are for the benefit of the Libyan people and not for Mu'ammar or for this or that person in particular.

The oil which used to be sold at cheap prices—we raised it one day to 40 dollars per barrel—for what? For the petrochemicals which, God willing, will be developed. In fact, we are in need of peace and we need to solve our problems with the world. But we cannot surrender. Peace enables us to build the Great Manmade River; to develop Ra's Lanuf, Bu Kammash, Maradah and the water lakes; to conquer the desert; and to extend our hand to Egypt, Sudan, Tunisia, Algeria and our Arab brothers in Chad and all these countries. We extend our helping hand to them. All this really needs a calm atmosphere and an atmosphere of peace. The enemies, surely, are envious. They try not to give us a chance. Therefore, we must foil them.

The things for which we had made the sacrifices turned out to be worth it. We did not expose our country to danger. How many times we had things over which one could have acted rashly and exposed one's country to danger. We resorted to the international Court of Justice [words indistinct] only when they invade [word indistinct] when they invade the bay. Then we would not be

able to retreat. When they invade Aozou. Aozou is an international dispute. We referred this to the International Court of Justice.

We supported the popular and revolutionary forces in the world. They triumphed in Chad despite the fact that Aozou is with the International Court of Justice. But we did not stop our support for the Chadian people and the revolutionary movement in Chad until the puppets and dictatorship fell and the forces which were hostile to us were defeated, thanks be to God.

We made sacrifices. We were ready to die on a night like this. We were ready to die, not frivolously but for things which were inevitable. Had it not been for the revolution, Libya would now be in the worst condition. Oil was in the hands of a handful of brokers with fat bellies, imposters who did not belong to this people or its roots. Colonialism would still be here and our state in ruin. The revolution was inevitable. Truly, it was very a grave risk. [passage omitted]

We do not want to squander the historic action and efforts by any act of emotionalism or adventure. When we accept a risk, we do so because it is necessary, just as was the case on the night of revolution.

We accepted the risk on that night because it was necessary. There was no alternative. But today we, as a people, accept risks only when we realize that it is necessary just as was the case on the night of the revolution.

I congratulate you. The struggle will continue.

Kuwait

Amir Pays Quick Visit to Saudi Arabia

LD0309191291 London KUNA in Arabic 1824 GMT 3 Sep 91

[Excerpts] Kuwait, 3 Sep (KUNA)—His Highness the Amir of Kuwait returned to the homeland this evening at 1830 after having paid a brief visit to his brother the custodian of the two holy mosques, King Fahd Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz Al Saud of the sister Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

During the visit, solid brotherly relations between the two sister countries and ways of developing and consolidating them were discussed. In addition, an exchange of views took place regarding developments of the Gulf situation and ways of consolidating cooperation and links between Gulf sister countries and brotherly peoples, with the feeling of unity of aspirations, hopes, and common destiny. [passage omitted]

His highness the amir of Kuwait left the homeland this afternoon for the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia accompanied by a number of shaykhs and high-ranking officials of the amir's office.

National Council Debates Role of KUNA

LD0309143491 London KUNA in Arabic 1312 GMT 3 Sep 91

[Excerpts] Kuwait, 3 Sep (KUNA)—The Kuwaiti National Council today discussed the future policy of the Ministry of Information and listened to a report presented by the Information Minister on the general aims of that policy and the means to implement them by using the radio, television, the press, the news agency, foreign media, cultural publications, and others.

The members commented on the report. A number of them called for lifting control of the press, while others supported the policy of the Ministry of Information. Some members of the council attacked the Kuwaiti News Agency, KUNA, describing it as being like a "travel agency" and saying: "It was like arrows in the hearts of the Kuwaitis, and some of its correspondents harmed Kuwait during the crisis."

Other members supported the role KUNA played before and during the crisis and called for backing it with sincere personnel who are concerned for the reputation and the interest of the homeland and the people. They also called on the agency to document all the positive practices Kuwait experienced during the crisis, considering that it is a historical epoch which must go down in history with pride. [passage omitted]

The session, which was chaired by 'Abd-al-'Aziz al-Misa'id, was suspended at 1400 this afternoon, and the discussion is to be completed next Tuesday.

Saudi Arabia

Kuwaiti Amir Arrives, Welcomed by King Fahd

LD0309123191 Riyadh Saudi Arabian Kingdom Radio Network in Arabic 1130 GMT 3 Aug 91

[Excerpt] His Highness Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Jabir al-Sabah, the amir of Kuwait, arrived in Jeddah this afternoon on a visit to the Kingdom. King Fahd Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz Al Sa'ud, custodian of the two holy mosques, welcomed his highness at King 'Abd-al-'Aziz International Airport. [passage omitted]

Talks With King Fahd, Departs

LD0309181891 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1659 GMT 3 Sep 91

[Excerpt] Jeddah, 3 Sep (SPA)—King Fahd Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz Al Sa'ud, custodian of the two holy mosques, and his brother His Highness Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah, the amir of the State of Kuwait, held a bilateral meeting this afternoon at the guest palace at al-Hamra'.

His Highness Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah left Jeddah this evening after a brief visit to Saudi Arabia.

King Fahd Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz Al Sa'ud saw him off at King 'Abd-al-'Aziz international airport. [passage omitted]

Prince Sultan Comments on Soviet Events

LD0309030791 Riyadh Saudi Arabian Television Network in Arabic 1830 GMT 2 Sep 91

[Excerpts] Prince Sultan Bin 'Abd al-'Aziz, second deputy premier and minister of defense and aviation and inspector general, last night received a number of citizens who came to greet him at the Royal Court at the al-Salam Palace in Jeddah. [passage omitted]

Prince Sultan Bin 'Abd al-'Aziz described the current events in the Soviet Union as an affirmation of the peoples' wishes to get rid of injustice and oppression, and to cling to their freedoms and exercise their will stemming from their aspiration for a better life. His highness explained that what has happened in the Soviet Union was not surprising, as signs that the Soviet Union was opening to the world appeared through the policy of reforms adopted by Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev. In general remarks made while receiving citizens last night and published by AL-NADWAH today, his highness said that it was not possible for the Soviet peoples to put up with more poverty and oppression than they already had. At their first opportunity these peoples were able to express their will and aspiration for a dignified life to enjoy their natural right to life. [passage omitted]

King Fahd Chairs Council of Ministers Session

LD0209182591 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1645 GMT 2 Sep 91

[Excerpt] Jeddah, 2 Sep (SPA)—King Fahd Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz Al Sa'ud, custodian of the two holy mosques, chaired a meeting of the Council of Ministers this afternoon at al-Salam Palace.

Following the session, His Excellency Information Minister 'Ali al-Sha'ir told SPA that the council reviewed reports on current events, whether at the level of the Arab Gulf area, the Arab region, or the international level in general. This was within the framework of its permanent follow-up of the latest Arab and international developments. In this connection the council debated all current issues in the Soviet Union and the extent of their reflections on the efforts being made to convene the international peace conference. The council continued its interest in the Palestinian question and the subject of Jerusalem, reaffirming the continuation of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia's stand by the fraternal Palestinian people in its just struggle for its legitimate rights according to UN Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338. Toward this end the custodian of the two holy mosques spoke about the efforts that the Kingdom continues to make at various levels to realize and consolidate the foundations of security and stability in the Arab region. [passage omitted]

King Fahd Receives Tunisian Foreign Minister

LD0309220491 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1705 GMT 3 Sep 91

[Excerpts] Jeddah, 3 Sep (SPA)—King Fahd-Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz Al Sa'ud, custodian of the two holy mosques, received a message from President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali of Tunisia.

The message was conveyed by Tunisian Foreign Minister Mr. Habib Ben Yahya when he was received by the custodian of the two holy mosques today. [passage omitted]

The Tunisian minister of foreign affairs arrived in Jeddah today at dawn. [passage omitted]

Tanzanian Foreign Minister Arrives in Jeddah

LD0309040191 Riyadh SPA in English 1912 GMT 2 Sep 91

[Text] On arrival earlier today in Jeddah, the Tanzanian foreign affairs minister, Ahmed Hasan Diria, was greeted by Dr. Mohammad al-Milhim, the Tanzanian ambassador and a representative of the royal protocol.

Yemen

Salih Receives Visiting Omani State Minister

JN0209125991 Sanaa Yemeni Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1200 GMT 2 Sep 91

[Text] President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih today received brother Yusuf Bin-'Alawi Bin-'Abdallah, Omani minister of state for foreign affairs, who conveyed to the brother president a message from his brother His Majesty Sultan Qabus Bin-Sa'id of Oman. The message dealt with cooperation, brotherly relations between the two fraternal countries, and developments in the regional, Arab, and international arenas. The brother president asked the Omani minister of state for foreign affairs to carry a reply to his brother His Majesty Sultan Qabus Bin-Sa'id. Prime Minister Haydar Abu-Bakr al-'Attas and Foreign Minister 'Abd-al-Karim al-Iryani attended the meeting.

Brother Yusuf Bin-'Alawi Bin-'Abdallah arrived in Sanaa early today. In a statement to SABA', he said the purpose of his visit to our country is to exchange views on joint issues as well as current Arab issues. He also pointed out that the visit comes to emphasize the profound brotherly relations between the Yemeni and the Omani people. Foreign Minister 'Abd-al-Karim al-Iryani and Omani Charge d'Affaires in Sanaa brother Malik Sa'id al-Hasan received the Omani official at the airport.

Omani State Minister Departs

JN0309134291 Sanaa Yemeni Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1200 GMT 3 Sep 91

[Text] Brother Yusuf Bin-'Alawi Bin-'Abdallah, Omani minister of state for foreign affairs, left Sanaa at noon today following a two-day visit to our country during which he conveyed a message to brother Lieutenant General 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, chairman of the Presidential Council, from his brother Sultan Qabus Bin-Sa'id of Oman.

In a statement to the Yemeni news agency, SABA', the Omani official said: I was honored to meet the brother president. The ideas and opinions expressed by him were in full agreement with the views of his brother Sultan Qabus, in particular with regard to the future of cooperation between the Republic of Yemen and the Sultanate of Oman. He noted that the higher bilateral joint committee is now looking into the remaining issues pertaining to the border demarcation between the two fraternal countries, in addition to studying all means to entrench cooperation in all domains.

Concluding his statement, the Omani minister of state for foreign affairs expressed satisfaction that there are no obstacles impeding the development of relations between the two fraternal countries.

Foreign Minister brother Dr. 'Abd-al-Karim al-Iryani, the Presidential Council protocol office representative, and Omani Charge d'Affaires in Sanaa brother Talib Sa'id al-Hasan saw him off at the airport.

Saddam Husayn Chairs Ba'th Party Meeting

JN0309164591 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1636 GMT 3 Sep 91

[Text] Baghdad, 3 Sep (INA)—President Saddam Husayn, secretary of the regional command of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, has chaired a meeting which was attended by the secretaries of party branches.

Saddam Cables al-Qadhdhafi on Revolution Day

JN0109075991 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0720 GMT 1 Sep 91

[Text] Baghdad, 1 Sep (INA)—President Saddam Husayn has sent a cable of congratulations to his brother Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, president of the Great Socialist People's Arab Libyan Jamahiriyah, on the occasion of the 1 September anniversary. The cable states:

On the anniversary of the 1 September revolution, the national day of the fraternal Great Socialist People's Arab Libyan Jamahiriyah, we are pleased to send to your excellency our warmest congratulations and to convey our most sincere brotherly feelings on this occasion, which is dear to all faithful Arabs. On that day, fraternal Arab Libya was liberated from reactionary tutelage and subservience to foreigners, and doors were opened to the fraternal people to score major achievements and play a civilized and effective role in the life of our Arab nation.

We wish you good health and happiness, and the fraternal Arab Libyan people further progress and welfare. We also wish the ties of brotherhood between Iraq and Libya continued improvement and prosperity for the benefit of the two fraternal people and the dignity, impregnability, and loftiness of our glorious Arab nation, and to bolster its just struggle against international imperialism and local reactionary forces.

With my best brotherly regards. Peace be upon you.

Bases in Kuwait, 'Imperialist Objectives' Viewed

JN0309111291 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0640 GMT 3 Sep 91

[Text] Baghdad, 3 Sep (INA)—The newspaper AL-THAWRAH has said that the Kuwaiti authorities' efforts to continue to gird themselves with the U.S. military belt is not conceived on the spur of the moment, but is a clear extension to the chapters of the U.S.-Atlantic-Zionist aggression against Iraq and the Arab homeland.

In an article today, the paper refers to the military agreement expected to be signed soon between the United States and Kuwaiti authorities.

The paper stresses that the Kuwaiti authorities are trying by all means, slanders, lies, and delusions to create imaginary incidents to show that the situation with Iraq is still tense, and that they have no choice but to accept the U.S. umbrella.

The paper notes that the Kuwaiti authorities have obstructed efforts to return the Kuwaitis still in Iraq, and claimed that Iraqi military actions have been carried out against their forces, something which the UN observers have refuted in part and parcel.

The paper says: Taking into consideration its military terms and the quality of equipment that will remain in Kuwait, and in light of the imperialist objectives in the Gulf region, this agreement is aimed at keeping Kuwait a U.S. military base similar to the island of Diego Garcia in the Indian Ocean, and a number of islands in the Pacific and Atlantic Oceans.

The paper adds: This agreement is an actual consecration of the Gulf picture the way the U.S. Administration wants it to be economically; the military guarantees it to protect Gulf oil and to determine its production, marketing, price, and the way its revenue is utilized.

Talabani: Turkish Kurds Have Ties With Saddam

LD3008225191 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0930 GMT 29 Aug 91

[Text] Jalal Talabani, a leader of the Iraqi Kurds, has accused Kurdish separatists in Turkey of having had secret links with Saddam over the past three years. Talabani said: In the wake of recent border problems with Turkey, we found out that the Kurdish PKK [Workers Party of Kurdistan] of Turkey received arms, money, and intelligence data from Baghdad for three years. He added: We never cross Turkey's borders for military objectives, and the PKK should also observe these regulations.

Opposition Groups Discuss Cooperation

NC0209144591 (Clandestine) Voice of Iraqi Opposition in Arabic 1300 GMT 2 Sep 91

[Text] A delegation from the leadership of the Iraqi Democratic Grouping has met in London with representatives from the recently established UK-based Union of Iraqi Democrats to discuss ways to coordinate and cooperate against the defeated tyrant's regime.

In a joint statement the sides said they hold common views on several political objectives and policies. They expressed their determination to contact other opposition groups and figures to affirm the unity of the forces opposed to the dictator's regime, to rid the Iraqi political stage of all signs of fragmentation, and to bring it up to the level where the dictatorship could be removed and the people's hopes attained.

New Political Group Formed

NC0309160491 (Clandestine) Voice of Iraqi Opposition in Arabic 1500 GMT 3 Sep 91

[Text] A number of Iraqi opposition figures have formed a new political group called the Iraqi Democratic Union [al-Muttahid al-Dimukrati al-'Iraqi], which seeks to mobilize all the opposition's resources to overthrow the despotic regime.

A statement issued by the group said that a number of figures representing various Iraqi political and cultural trends studied the crisis which has gripped our dear homeland since the establishment of national rule in the 1920's until the present dictatorial regime in order to find the appropriate solutions.

The new group's main objectives are the overthrow of the treacherous dictatorial regime, the creation of an interim national salvation government, the reconstruction of the country, the abolition of all repressive apparatuses, the recognition of civil liberties, the removal of the effects of economic backwardness, the rectification of Iraq's relations with Arab and Islamic states, the adoption of a balanced foreign policy, and the approval of laws guaranteeing free elections.

The statement was signed by Ahmad al-Habbubi, Mustafa Jamal-al-Din, Bashir al-Samarra'i, Muhammad al-Habbubi, Dr Hasan Shalbi, Hani [last name indistinct], Yusuf [last name indistinct], Dr. Ghassan Rassam, Raja' al-Khalili, Ayham al-Samarra'i, and Jasim al- Ma'ruf.

Settlement-U.S. Aid Link Called 'Inconceivable'

TA0309195691 Jerusalem Israel Television Network in Hebrew 1800 GMT 3 Sep 91

[Text] Over the past few days the U.S. Administration made it clear to leaders of several Arab countries that it will oppose granting Israel the $10 billion in guarantees for loans for immigrant absorption in Israel, as long as Israel does not stop expanding settlements in the territories. This was reported by our Arab affairs correspondent Ehud Ya'ari. Our correspondent adds that this clarification, which was apparently given with the knowledge of U.S. President George Bush, is one of the explanations for the fact that Egypt, Jordan, and Syria continue issuing stern demands that the settlement drive must stop before the peace conference convenes.

As is well known, Ambassador Shoval will present Israel's official request for the U.S. Administration's approval of the guarantees next weekend. The issue will certainly be raised when Secretary of State James Baker arrives here in 10 days.

Senior political sources in Jerusalem disregarded this report, and told our political correspondent Gadi Sukenik that this piece of information is inconceivable. According to them, the United States has never made the guarantees for immigrant absorption conditional on stopping settlements in the territories, and the administration knows well that Israel will in no way accept such conditions.

No More Clarifications Planned

TA0409070491 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0600 GMT 4 Sep 91

[Report by political correspondent Natan Gutman]

[Text] In the next few days, Israel is expected to submit an official request for U.S. guarantees for $10 billion to be used for housing for immigrants. As expected, reports alleging a linkage between the approval of the guarantees and political progress or a freeze on settlement are proliferating as the day of the request draws near.

Jerusalem sources stressed last night that Israel knows of no U.S. commitment to the Arabs to pressure Israel over this issue. Political sources said Israel will take action to explain the humanitarian value of the guarantees, which would be earmarked for the construction of housing for Soviet refugees.

U.S. congressmen close to the issue who visited Israel last month said it was possible that only a small portion of the guarantees—up to $2 billion—would be approved at this time, with any additional allowance to be reexamined annually in the context of political progress.

In the coming days, Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir is expected to send a message on this issue to U.S. President George Bush. Shamir's message will explain Israel's urgent need for guarantees that will provide housing for hundreds of thousands of immigrants.

Political sources in Jerusalem said Israel does not intend to furnish the administration with any further documents assuring that the guarantees will not be used for construction in the territories. The Americans have already received letters to this effect and Jerusalem believes no more clarifications are called for.

Guarantees-Peace Process Link Feared

TA0309124491

[Editorial Report] Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew on 3 September in a page A1 report by 'Aqiva Eldar and Ori Nir says, "Sources in Jerusalem said they expect Secretary of State Baker to arrive in the region at the end of next week to finalize the issue of Palestinian representation and the letters of intent the United States will give the various parties.

"The prevailing estimate in Jerusalem is that President Bush is determined to convene the peace conference in October even if he does not receive clear answers from all the parties. It is believed that the U.S. Administration will exert efforts to link the loan guarantees for immigrant absorption to Israel's positions regarding the peace process and the settlement issue."

Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew on 3 September in a page 2 report by Drora Perel and Hemi Shalev states that "in addition, there are signs that the administration will also make the loan guarantees conditional on far-reaching economic reforms in Israel, including a more widespread privatization of the economy than that planned by the government."

Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew on 3 September in a report by 'Avino'am Bar-Yosef on pages A1 and A2 reports that "political sources in Jerusalem point to an erosion in Prime Minister Shamir's readiness to trust the United States to take a balanced position in political negotiations between Israel and the Arab states. The Likud leadership increasingly believes that the Bush administration is trying to draw closer to the Arab world, at Israel's expense."

New U.S. Plan on East Jerusalem Representation

TA0409104291 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 4 Sep 91 pp 1, 2

[Report by Hemi Shalev]

[Excerpts] The United States and the Palestinians are currently discussing a new proposal to resolve the issue of East Jerusalem representation. According to the proposal, the Palestinian delegation to the peace conference will include representatives who live in areas such as al-'Ayzariyah or Abu-Dis, which are not part of the Jerusalem municipal area but were considered part of Jordanian Jerusalem before 1967.

Political sources in Jerusalem said yesterday that this proposal had not been discussed with Israel. The sources added that as far as Israel is concerned the deciding factor is whether the Palestinian candidates have Jerusalem/Israeli identity cards or identification issued by the Civil Administration.

The proposal aims at letting the Palestinians assert that East Jerusalemites are represented in their delegation while at the same time allowing Israel to ignore this claim. [passage omitted]

It was further learned that The Hague, the capital of the Netherlands, and the Swiss city Lausanne are now the main contenders for hosting the peace conference. The Arab states have already agreed to The Hague; Israel, however, prefers Lausanne for various reasons. Among other things, both the United States and Israel have reservations about holding the conference in the capital of the country currently chairing the EC, because it would enhance Europe's standing at the conference.

Jerusalem is still expecting the imminent arrival of Secretary of State James Baker in the region, perhaps even by the middle of next week. The administration has signaled Israel over the last few days that it would like to postpone Israel's request for loan guarantees for immigration absorption, and sources in Jerusalem expressed the belief that Baker is trying to use the loan guarantees both as leverage to get Israel to accept various proposals regarding the peace process and as a means of continuing to pressure Israel either to stop or slow its settlement drive.

Authoritative sources yesterday reported that the United States had promised the Arab countries that Israel would stop establishing settlements as soon political negotiations started. Officials at the Prime Minister's Office dismissed these reports, saying that "if it wants to, the United States can stop the settlements." [passage omitted]

Cabinet Approves 1992 State Budget

TA0409095791 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 4 Sep 91 pp A1, 2

[Report by Yosi Grinstein and 'Imanu'el Rosen]

[Text] After a marathon debate, which lasted over 17 hours and ended late last night, the cabinet approved next year's state budget of NIS [new Israeli shekels] 95 billion [about $40.7 billion]. The cabinet was able to approve the budget only after Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir forced Ministers Moda'i and Arens to accept a compromise on the defense budget.

At 0130 last night, after a tension-fraught day and night of debate, the ministers took a vote. The count showed that 11 ministers were in favor of the budget proposal and seven against: Sharon, Qatzav, Pat, Nitsim, Ze'evi, Milo, and Magen.

The compromise, which was approved by a majority, stipulated that the defense budget would be increased by NIS 0.5 billion, rather than slashed, as demanded by the Treasury. Half of the amount is earmarked for immediate expenditures, while the other half is a provision for future outlay.

The decision means that the deficit will rise even further to 6.3 percent of GNP rather than the 5.5 percent targeted by the Treasury. Partial financing for the additional sum for defense will come from slashing the budgets of the other ministries across the board by 3 percent, although the cut will not affect civil servants' wages.

Last night's vote endorsed all the other Treasury proposals, including: income tax on old age pensions; reduced subsidies to day-care centers; national insurance to be paid by employers on expense allowances; and public transportation and water prices to be raised by over 20 percent and gasoline by 7.6 percent.

To reduce the deficit, the cabinet decided to revise the 1992 immigration forecast from 250,000 down to 200,000 (a saving of NIS 400 million) and to revoke entirely the accelerated-rate depreciation enjoyed by industrial, data processing, and tourism enterprises, saving NIS 500 million.

The ministers endorsed the Treasury proposal in the field of construction: Minister Ari'el Sharon's demand to build 44,000 housing units in 1992 was rejected, and the Treasury's original proposal of 15,000 units was endorsed.

In one sphere, however, the sword did not fall; instead, the ultraorthodox community received a last-minute raise. In accordance with the demand of Deputy Minister Menahem Porush, the special allotments to religious institutions will be increased by 25 percent and stand at NIS 260 million in 1992. The cabinet decided that criteria for the distribution of these funds will be formalized.

After the meeting, Finance Minister Yitzhaq Moda'i said: "I am very pleased with the cabinet's decision. Defense is important to all of us, and the overall results of the budget debate are satisfactory. Moreover, they allow control and supervision of the budget."

Sources in the defense establishment, however, said last night: "There is no cause for celebration. The IDF [Israel Defense Forces] has received only half the sum it requested, which means that we will have to sit down and decide which basic security needs are to be overlooked."

Defense establishment sources were furious with the Treasury. "On Monday, we realized that the Treasury had simply deceived us," said senior defense sources. "They reduced the budget framework by NIS 570 million, which means that in practice, they wanted to slash

our budget by 1.7 billion, rather than 1.1 billion. We will now have to study the new situation and its significance."

The cabinet resolution stipulates an NIS 570 million slash in the budget framework, along with increments totaling about NIS 1 billion. The bottom line is an addition of 0.5 billion, half of the amount demanded by the Defense Ministry.

These are the increments to the defense budget: NIS 300 million to cover intifadah-related expenditures; 250 million to finance projects and generate employment in defense industries; and a 250- million provision for the signing of new long-term contracts for industrial projects. In addition, the defense establishment will receive NIS 124 million if immigration stands at less than 200,000. An additional 120 million will be made available at the discretion of the prime minister. The latter sum is an allotment for certain strategic needs, which the prime minister, in a letter to Arens two months ago, had promised to supply. Defense establishment circles are certain that this sum, too, will be given eventually.

Ya'aqov Frankel, governor of the Bank of Israel, said after the cabinet vote: "The deficit is slightly higher than it should be, and it should be gradually reduced. As a matter of fact, the finance minister intends to convene the Ministerial Committee on Economic Affairs and propose that the deficit be reduced over the coming years."

Paper Profiles Director of Mosad

TA300815389l Tel Aviv HADASHOT (MUSHAF HADASHOT supplement) in Hebrew 30 Aug 91 pp 6, 7, 9

[Article by Na'omi Levitzky: "Imperfect Spies"]

[Excerpts] From the Mosad director's point of view, things have not been that great. It is only his third year on the job, and he already looks like someone walking on hot coals. He had to brave the Ostrovsky affair, the Cyprus incident [in which four Israelis were arrested in the Iranian Embassy], as well as Iraq, Syria, and several other murky stories that were never made public—in short, a series of explosive messes. True, no one promised him an easy ride, and he knew the system had its problems, but he probably did not expect to be plunged into such a stormy sea. And the stormier the sea, the more the captain resists.

With trouble, it never rains; it pours. The relationship between the IDF's [Israel Defense Forces] Intelligence Branch and the Mosad has always been tense. They work toward the same goals, often use similar means, and occasionally work together uneasily. The head of the Intelligence Branch is in charge of breaking down the essential elements of information, and he submits the national evaluation to the cabinet. After the Yom Kippur War, two additional bodies were authorized to assess political intentions: The Mosad established a research department, and an existing department in the Foreign Ministry was bolstered. This ushered in a golden era for a whole generation of academics, and a whole group of postdoctorate and graduate students found employment there. It is still the IDF's Intelligence Branch, however, that submits the national assessment to the government and to the inner cabinet. The Intelligence Branch also gives the Mosad collection instructions.

In this field the Mosad operates as the Intelligence Branch's subcontractor, and it is hard to say that it likes that arrangement. When Major General Amnon Shahaq headed the Intelligence Branch, the tension between him and the current head of the Mosad reached a new peak. In the beginning, at least on the surface, things seemed to be tranquil, but the two men began using harsh tones with each other very quickly. These deteriorated into personal attacks. The present head of the Mosad sighed with relief when Shahaq was appointed deputy chief of staff. Even though the Mosad chief's relationship with Uri Sagi, current head of the Intelligence Branch, is somewhat better, their respective organizations are anathema to each other. [passage omitted]

The head of the Mosad belongs to that select group of people who have no names or faces, and who never appear in the media. He has been like that—immersed in total secrecy—almost all his life. If he were to take a walk down Dizengoff Street, one can assume that no one would recognize him. He is a pleasant man and very soft spoken. Sometimes it seems that he has raised reticence to the level of an art form. He is average in height, with an athletic build, and is well preserved for a 53-year-old. His straight hair is brushed backward and reveals a widow's peak. If one were looking for an actor to play him in a movie, Jack Nicholson would be the natural choice. Indeed, the Mosad chief could be the classic hero of a Menahem Golan action movie. The son of a poor family, he worked his way to the top of the Mosad by dint of hard work. He finished his Army service as a sergeant in an elite commando unit. He paid for his Middle East studies at Hebrew University by himself. Uri Lubrani, then the prime minister's adviser on Arab affairs, gave him occasional odd jobs, such as preparing translations.

He joined the Mosad approximately 26 years ago as a junior staff officer and began his slow but steady climb to the top. He was not a particularly brilliant student. He was okay, but no more than that, and no one in the Mosad thought he had star potential. He spent most of his service in the field and earned a reputation for dedication, impressive personal courage, responsibility, and obedience, but he was not earmarked as a potential leader. Someone who worked with him at the beginning of his career remembers him as an extremely curious, very diligent person, who would arrive at work first and leave last and was always looking for a way to prove himself. The people I spoke to while preparing this article said that they would set out on a special mission

with him with their eyes closed but they had never considered him suitable material for head of the Mosad. A dreary character, they told me, somewhat dry, cold, very introverted and distant. Under this drab covering, however, he can sometimes be very human. Then it is as though he sheds his armor for an instant. His friends say he is a real pal and always ready to help.

His appointment took his colleagues completely by surprise, especially since he was facing a candidate of Major General Shahaq's caliber, who was then head of the IDF Intelligence Branch and today is the deputy chief of staff. The truth of the matter is that when Nahum Admoni, the former head of the Mosad, marked him as his successor, everyone already thought he was on his way home, shrouded in the aura of someone who had participated in countless special operations, had headed one of the more secret Mosad units and later directed its operations branch, and who had been considered a great talent in his field. However, Admoni, who was not an operations man, urgently needed some backing from that branch, and the rest is history. He was sent to study in the United States, and later assumed the senior post of coordinator of the Mosad's staff operations (something like the head of the IDF's General Staff Branch), and then became deputy head of the Mosad, the best place from which to vie for the top job.

Admoni's departure left a sluggish and rundown Mosad, which needed a thorough shaking-up at the very least, if not even more drastic measures. Although there was some disappointment with the appointment, everyone still expected him to sweep away the cobwebs. What they got was a change of atmosphere at the top, which partly resembled a game of musical chairs and partly an advertisement for a social club. To say that no thorough measures were taken here would be an understatement.

The Mosad is a relatively small organization, but it has enviable resources at its disposal. Its expenditures are not itemized in the state budget and are not threatened by any cuts in the defense budget. They are financed by the Prime Minister's Office. [passage omitted]

Every intelligence service in the world is divided into Elint (electronic intelligence) and Humint (human intelligence), but it is said that the current head of the Mosad is completely entranced by technology, simply in love with the subject. This passion for technology obviously involves immense expenditures, but some people in the Mosad feel that they are investing too much in technology and not enough in people. Experts explain that investment in one aspect must come at the expense of the other, and there is still no replacement for human intelligence. The Gulf War proved that electronic intelligence is not enough. Even the United States, with its tremendous resources—satellites, photo systems, code breaking systems, and very detailed analyses— did not know what they needed to know.

The head of the Mosad gets along well with the prime minister. They understand each other, perhaps because they have similar temperaments. Shamir is pleased with him, even though the political establishment perceives him as overly focused on narrow operational aspects and slightly lacking in the political maturity and understanding needed not to act like a mere staff officer when appearing before decisionmakers. He likes to give presentations on the global situation. He occasionally comes to the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee's Secret Services Subcommittee carrying a pile of slides to deliver reviews of the situation in the Middle East or the superpowers. He is meticulous, thorough, and scholarly. He learns. His self-discipline is most impressive and was apparently acquired in previous operational jobs. As head of the organization, he has not surrounded himself with operations men. For example, his deputy comes from a different field.

He has a serious problem with the media. Not only does he loathe them and avoid them like the plague, but some say he does not grasp their role in the modern world and fails to use them properly. As far as he is concerned, a journalist either works for him or he is the enemy. Of course, the man will tell you that he has access to every major newspaper in the world, but even recently, when the pressure on Israel on the hostage question began, Israel lagged behind events with regard to the media. Moreover, it is doubtful that the Ostrovsky affair would have evolved the way it did had it not been for his erroneous perception of the media. [passage omitted]

All in all, the Mosad is being run peacefully. Occasionally there is internal criticism, particularly from the lower ranks. Senior positions are usually filled by his associates. Even if some appointment, including that of his deputy, arouses criticism, peaceful labor relations mean a lot to the man. Very few men are capable of appointing subordinates whose talents surpass their own. His appointments are quite an accurate reflection of his own abilities. As an executive director, he believes in centralized authority (a decentralized organization is quite unmanageable). Former directors 'Amit and Hofi delegated authority to their subordinates; the current director works differently.

If personal loyalty to him does not uphold internal tranquillity, fear will. Unlike the head of the Shin Bet, who has slightly opened his organization and is paying a heavy personal price for it, the head of the Mosad has hermetically closed his organization. The Mosad has an internal auditor who reports to the director, and the state comptroller has said a few things in the last few years, but he is not really thrilled about this set-up. When it comes to relations with the media, he is a real fanatic. Woe is he who is suspected of talking to a journalist; he is immediately given a polygraph. Mosad staffers who have journalist friends must report this fact as well as every meeting with them, which is not really pleasant. Regarding the attitude to the media, opinions in the organization are split to the point that staffers have almost formed camps. Every few months, when the argument is rekindled, there is talk of creating a slot for some kind of spokesman. Numerous position papers are

drafted, but nothing changes and is not very likely to change as long as the current director remains in office.

The Mosad is not in the eye of the storm as the Shin Bet is. It is not being torn apart by political division but rather is consensus personified. There may be an intifadah in Gaza and the West Bank, but there is no war overseas. Nevertheless, any mishap on the part of the Mosad jeopardizes Israel's foreign relations. Part of the Mosad's job is to be in contact with countries that do not have diplomatic relations with Israel. As for countries that severed their relations with us, the Foreign Ministry and the Mosad have been engaged in a frantic and historic competition over the question who is to maintain those contacts. In the early 1980's this competition was exacerbated by a defense minister who would hop on a plane, fly to African countries, and leave all sorts of promises behind. Later, when relations resumed, those countries would demand to collect their dues. [passage omitted]

The mythical attitude toward the Mosad did not come out of the blue. Although the glamour has somewhat been tarnished by time, for every successful operation that is published there are dozens of secret operations that nobody ever hears about. The memorial for the intelligence community's dead is a rounded wall filled with names. It is rounded inward, so that only people who have permission may read the names. They are so secret that they remain secret even after death. I am told that some names do not appear even there. There is not a great deal of allure in this work, but there is a lot of danger. Mosad directors have usually paid for the sins of their predecessors. This is an organization that is supposed to plan many years in advance, but it does not always work out that way; see the case of Iraq, Iran, and the mood reversal in Syria. Nevertheless, this secret organization is still treated with a fair measure of indulgence, and its director is still crowned with the halo of Simon Templar, the Saint. Despite all the defense, however, cracks are beginning to appear in the wall and the myth may very soon regain human dimensions. Too human, perhaps.

Shamir Criticizes Egypt's Remarks About Sharon

TA0109092991 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 1 Sep 91 p 10

[Excerpt] Attacks by Egyptian spokesmen on Housing Minister Ari'el Sharon should not be interpreted as an attempt to pressure Israel, Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir told reporters Friday afternoon upon returning from a three-day visit to Bulgaria.

"We are used to statements of this type on the part of Egypt," Shamir told an airport press conference, "one time about the prime minister, and one time about another cabinet minister. It does not help to further the peace process."

In answer to a question about a possible prisoner exchange, Shamir said it is necessary to continue to wait patiently.

"I would like to believe the optimistic assessments of the secretary-general of the United Nations on the matter," said Shamir, denying that he had expressed himself on the status of missing Israel Air Force navigator Capt. Ron Arad and that he had said Arad is alive and being held in Iran.

When pressed on the subject by a foreign correspondent, Shamir added: "If my friend Lubrani said something like that, then it is likely to be correct."

Nevertheless, Shamir made it clear that Israel is waiting for additional information on the matter.

With regard to the continuation of the peace process in the region, the prime minister said he hopes to win Bulgaria's support for Israel's positions, now that Bulgaria has discontinued its support for the PLO.

As to the role of the United States, Shamir said that, so far, he had no information when Secretary of State James Baker plans to make another round of shuttle diplomacy in the region.

"I'm sure that he'll come one day, and I hope that we have advance notice of his arrival," Shamir added with a broad grin. [passage omitted]

Sources Comment on Syria-Lebanon Security Pact

TA0209122491 Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew 2 Sep 91 p 6

[Report by Gay Bekhor, Aharon Klein, and Menahem Horowitz]

[Excerpts] Lebanon and Syria yesterday signed a mutual security pact in Shtawrah, east Lebanon. [passage omitted]

Commenting on this development, senior Defense Ministry officials said that the pact was yet another step in Lebanon's becoming a Syrian protectorate or, in effect, Syria's annexation of Lebanon. "Al-Asad is doing with Lebanon what Saddam Husayn wanted to do with Kuwait," the officials noted. They added that no change is expected in Israel's policy in Lebanon. "We will continue to take action whenever the Israeli interest of protecting our northern border calls for it," the officials stated. [passage omitted]

Charge in Turkey Views Bilateral Relations

NC3008124791 Istanbul CUMHURIYET in Turkish 28 Aug 91 p 10

["Exclusive interview" with Uri Gordon, charge d'affaires in Turkey, by CUMHURIYET correspondent Yasemin Congar in Ankara; date not given]

[Excerpts] Ankara—[Congar] Considering the effort made after the Gulf war to convene a Middle East peace conference, the Turkish Foreign Ministry has arrived at the conclusion that multilateral economic cooperation can be established in the region. Do you believe that an era of close cooperation among Israel, the Arab states, and Turkey can be established?

[Gordon] To say that Israel, the Arab states, Turkey and even Iran can suddenly establish close cooperation would be too optimistic. Nevertheless, we may reach some point by examining existing relationships, regardless of how limited they may be. For example, a certain degree of cooperation exists between Israel and Turkey. I do not believe that radical changes or reforms are required in the region in order to strengthen and promote this cooperation. We see significant potential even if we look at the matter from only the tourism issue. Some 150,000 Israeli tourists visited Turkey in 1990, spending a total of $250 million. If we add this figure to our annual trade volume, which totals $150 million, we get $400 million. This is a remarkable figure. Akarcali, Turkish minister of tourism, has said that the number of Israeli tourists visiting Turkey increased considerably during the past year. Can you imagine how happy I am as the representative of Israel in this country? I will not withhold what I have in mind at this moment: We want diplomatic relations to be raised to the level of ambassadors as a result of our nations' cooperation.

[Congar] Bulent Ecevit, leader of the Democratic Left Party, has said that the normalization of diplomatic relations between Turkey and Israel has been delayed. Do you agree with this statement?

[Gordon] I believe that Mr. Ecevit is right in what he said. Israel has diplomatic relations at the ambassadorial level with two countries in which the majority communities are made up of the Islamic people: Egypt and Albania. Israel established diplomatic relations with Albania last week. We want to add Turkey to this list of countries. What I have concluded from contacts I have held with people from various circles in your country is that they, too, want relations between Israel and Turkey to be normalized. New strides will be made in our cooperation if our diplomatic relations are promoted to the ambassadorial level.

[Congar] How do the Israeli people see Turkey? What do they think about promoting relations to the ambassadorial level? What do ordinary people in Israel think about Turkey?

[Gordon] Turkey is not merely an abstract image to Israelis; Turkey is not like Paraguay for us. The fact that we are linked by a human bridge is a reality. This bridge is made up of the Jews who immigrated from Turkey to Israel. They love Turkey. In fact, they voluntarily promote Turkey and make a significant contribution to the flow of tourists from Israel to Turkey. Turkey is not a theoretical entity for us.

[Congar] What common interests are shared by Turkey and Israel, two non-Arab countries linked with the Western world in the region?

[Gordon] What we share is very important. We are democratic countries. This is a basic point. People, not officials, drive democratic countries. The wishes of the people are conveyed to the government in a country in which elections are held. It is a fact that people want peace and happiness. People do not have expansionist and adventurist aspirations. These are our common interests [cikarlarimiz]. Turkey and Israel want peace and happiness. Significant threats exist in the Middle East. I do not want to get into details, but I must recall that Turkey and Israel have just emerged from a war in which they were on the same side. The two countries were confronted with similar threats. It does not take a lot of imagination to understand to which threats I refer. Threats, in the plural, continue to exist for the two countries. There is no need to look at a large map of the Middle East to see from where the threats are coming. A small map will suffice.

[Congar] Turkey regards the question of transnational "waters" as an important element for peaceful cooperation in the Middle East. Can you explain your viewpoint in that regard? Does Israel want to attend the conference that will be held in Istanbul on the transnational waters question, scheduled for November?

[Gordon] Of course Israel wants to attend that conference. The matter is an important factor for peace. A serious water problem exists in Israel. If we are invited, I believe we would accept the invitation. Israel and Turkey do not cooperate officially on water issues. I am aware, however, that a number of Israeli businessmen have taken steps to buy water from Turkey. [passage omitted]

[Congar] I wish to bring up a matter on which the newspapers have published varying reports. What was the story behind Peres' visit to Turkey?

[Gordon] As far as I know, he flew to Dalaman airport in a private aircraft. He traveled from the airport to Marmaris by car to visit his friends. He was on a private visit. He has been reported to have met with a number of officials in Turkey. I have no information in that regard.

Bribery Involving Air Force Mission in New York

TA0309132391 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 3 Sep 91 pp 1, 13

[Report by Tzadoq Yehezqeli in New York; names of firms as transliterated]

[Text] A new corruption affair possibly involving hundreds of thousands of U.S. dollars has been uncovered in the Air Force procurement mission in New York and has been handed over to the Israeli Police for investigation.

Buyers who worked for the mission and a U.S. firm that paid them the bribes are involved in the affair, which is unconnected to the Rami Dotan affair.

Dani Nave, the defense minister's media adviser, last night confirmed the report to YEDI'OT AHARONOT. He said that "in an investigation conducted by the Defense Ministry mission in New York, suspicions were aroused about a former local employee. On the basis of that information, the material was transferred to the police, and the matter is now under police investigation.

Defense Ministry sources reported that "it is possible that more than one former employee is involved. Perhaps another one or two employees are involved."

According to our information, two former buyers in the purchasing mission, David Palder and Ya'aqov Maringer, are involved.

David Palder, a former Peace Now activist, arrived in New York in the early 1980's and worked as a buyer in the Air Force procurement mission. He is suspected of having set up a conspiracy with the U.S. firm Air Rote, which manufactures parts for helicopters and aircraft. He offered to provide it with information on Air Force procurement plans, orders for aircraft parts, financial proposals by other firms competing in bids, and the amount the Air Force is prepared to pay for those bids.

The important information helped the U.S. firm to present the Air Force with the "right" proposals and to win bids. Sometimes the state lost as a result of that because the firm knew what the Air Force was prepared to pay and did not offer lower proposals, which it otherwise might have done.

In 1984, Palder resigned from the delegation and with Mordekhay Markowitz, who had previously also worked for the purchasing mission, set up a company called Uneer Tech which has since then represented Air Rote in its dealings with the Defense Ministry. It is suspected that Palder bribed Ya'aqov Maringer, a buyer for the mission, for information on bids and price offers by other firms.

Although Markowitz headed Uneer Tech together with Palder, a U.S. source said, he did not know about the corruption affair. "I would be very surprised if Markowitz knew something," the source said. He said that Markowitz and Palder have fallen out, even taking their differences to court, and that Markowitz has now left the firm. "If Markowitz is involved, why did he give up his share of the joint company without getting anything in return?" the source said.

Anyway, Palder continued his contacts with Air Rote. As far as is known, there is evidence in the documents of bribery to the tune of at least tens of thousands of U.S. dollars, which were transferred to Maringer by the U.S. firm as a "commission." It appears that Palder presented Maringer in writing the amounts he would receive in commissions on each deal with the U.S. firm, and these figures have now reached the Defense Ministry and police. The bribes apparently stopped in 1989.

This information was transmitted several weeks ago to the chief security officer in the procurement mission by several Israeli businessmen who, believing that they had sustained losses due to information being transferred to their competitors, thought something fishy was going on behind the scenes. After conducting an investigation, they handed their findings—which contain suspicions on other matters—to the security officer.

The security officer took immediate action. He transferred the information to his superiors in Israel, who handed it to the police. Great satisfaction was expressed at the speed with which the Defense Ministry had dealt with the affair.

Arens Repeats Call for Conference on Arms Race

TA0309110191 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 3 Sep 91 p 1

[Report by Alon Pinkas]

[Text] Israel is again proposing a joint conference of Middle Eastern countries and major suppliers of arms to the region aimed at halting the arms race, Defense Minister Moshe Arens said yesterday. A similar proposal was voiced several months ago.

Arens said that the expanding arms race is dangerous to the region's stability. "The whole world has learned after the Gulf war just how dangerous it is to enable a dictator like Saddam Husayn to build an immense war machine," he told the annual New Year's meeting with foreign military attaches stationed in Israel.

Arens added that Israel's own lessons from the Gulf war will be assimilated through the new IDF [Israel Defense Forces] multi-year plan, for which "we are seeking an appropriate budget."

Leaflet Condemns Threats Against Notables

TA0209150891 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1400 GMT 2 Sep 91

[Excerpt] A new leaflet published by the leadership of the intifadah condemns the threats against the Palestinian notables who met with James Baker. The leaflet stated that despite the disagreements between certain sectors of the Palestinian public, the only way to unify ranks was through a democratic dialogue.

The leaflet stated that whoever sold houses in East Jerusalem to Jews would be sentenced to death. The leaflet's authors call on all East Jerusalem residents who have moved to other cities to return immediately before their homes are inhabited by Jews.

Our correspondent Moti Amir adds that the leaflet notes that trailers were stationed at the Hebron bus station, and exhorts Palestinians to attack the settlers in Hebron and make their lives hell. [passage omitted]

Soviets Arrive for Joint Aviation Project Talks

TA0309153391 Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew 3 Sep 91 p 1

[Report by Alex Fishman]

[Text] Several days ago, top executives of the Soviet aircraft factory Ilyushin and officials of the Soviet Ministry of the Aviation Industry arrived in Israel for discussions with Israel Aircraft Industry [IAI] directors in a bid to revive a joint project for upgrading a Soviet passenger plane to adapt it for sale in the West.

The plane is the giant Ilyushin's IL-96 passenger plane. The engines will be supplied by the United States' Pratt and Whitney Corp., and the avionics will be produced by Collins, another U.S. company. The work will be done by the IAI. An IAI delegation paid several visits to the Soviet factory regarding this project.

Motives Behind Egyptian Memo to League Viewed

JN0309112891 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 3 Sep 91 pp 1, 18

[Editorial: "It Accused Us and Fled"]

[Text] It seems the Egyptian authorities were worried that some of the facts regarding its role in escalating the Gulf crisis will be recorded, or that some light will be shed on what they did during the crisis, the repercussions of which the Arab nation continues to suffer today.

All this becomes clear through the memorandum Egypt distributed to the Arab League and the campaign the Egyptian press has been waging against Jordan and the white paper we issued, in which we included facts about the Gulf crisis, as well as the irrefutable facts of the Egyptian role during the crisis.

Naturally, we were not surprised by such an Egyptian role, which seeks to absolve itself from any blame. We were not surprised at all at the clamor raised by some Egyptian newspaper writers who are fans of the art of instigation, propagation of hatred, distortion of facts, and so on an so forth. Egyptian media have been teeming with these qualities over the past few weeks.

The question that should be asked here is why is Egypt resuming its campaign against Jordan now. Does this stem from a sense of guilt for the shameful role it played during the crisis? Or does it go beyond responding to an accusation, to get to the stage of trying to bury all the facts.

If we maintain our silence regarding the current attempts to distort the Jordanian stand during that crisis, could Egypt then deny that it employed all its political and media resources to push the crisis toward the catastrophic explosion? Could Egypt claim that it did not send its army to fight under the banner of the Atlantic alliance? Does Egypt claim that it performed an objective role, the goal of which was to avert Iraq and Kuwait, as well as the whole Arab nation, the horrors of a war which led to weakening the Arabs to a point lower than they have ever been in their modern history?

While we honestly believe that Egypt's role during the Gulf crisis needs a black book, that the services it rendered to explode the crisis are innumerable, that it helped destroy a major Arab country which was a strategic reserve for the whole nation, and that it deserves harsh condemnation and defamation from every podium, we suffice ourselves with the irrefutable facts we presented in the white paper and the talk among people about their regret regarding the state great Egypt has fallen to at this stage. After that, we will leave judgment up to the coming generations that will neither be merciful nor forgiving regarding all those who helped push it to such a regrettable and sad state.

House Speaker Receives Iraqi Message on Blockade

JN3108153891 Amman Radio Jordan Network in Arabic 1500 GMT 31 Aug 91

[Text] Dr. 'Abd-al-Latif 'Arabiyat, speaker of the House of Representatives, received a message from Iraqi National Assembly Speaker Sa'di Mahdi Salih on the economic blockade imposed on Iraq.

In the message, addressed to all parliament speakers in the world, Salih said: Iraq is currently going through a difficult and delicate stage the likes of which have never existed in history. Iraq is being exposed to a brutal onslaught by foreign forces that are trying to impose their control and hegemony over it. As a result of this, the Iraqi people are suffering from the imposition of an unjust economic blockade. Epidemics and disease have also spread throughout Iraq because of lack of medicines.

ADC Urges Protest of U.S. Loan to Israel

JN0209144791

[Editorial Report] Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic on 2 September carries on page 15 an approximately 300-word advertisement in English under the headline "Time To Speak Out" by the Arab-American Antidiscrimination Committee (ADC) Amman Chapter. The advertisement states that the U.S. Congress will on 9 September vote on awarding Israel $10 billion to "illegally build new settlements on Palestinian land," and urges Jordanians, Arab-Americans, and Americans to write or fax a letter of protest to the U.S. envoy in the United Nations and Secretary of State James Baker. Addresses of the U.S. Mission to the United Nations and the U.S. Department of State are listed in the advertisement, which also promises to provide the addresses and fax numbers of members of the Congress and Senate upon request.

Al-Khatib: Syrian Withdrawal Delay Possible

NC0309065691 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0515 GMT 3 Sep 91

[Text] In a statement to the AL-ANWAR newspaper, Interior Minister Sami al-Khatib has denied any link between the Lebanese- Syrian security agreement, signed in Shtawrah on Sunday, and the Syrian withdrawal from Greater Beirut. The minister, however, did not rule out the possibility that the Syrian withdrawal, scheduled to take place at the end of September, might be delayed if Lebanese authorities believe that its military forces are still disorganized.

The interior minister said that the agreement has been derived from the de Gaulle-Adenauer Treaty signed between France and Germany in 1963, adding that the agreement is defensive in nature.

Fadlallah Insists on Release of Hammadi Brothers

AU0209102291 Hamburg DER SPIEGEL in German 2 Sep 91 p 217

[Interview with Shi'ite leader Shaykh Muhammad Husayn Fadlallah, spiritual head of the pro-Iranian Hizballah militia, by an unidentified reporter; place and date not given: "Either Everyone or No One"]

[Text] [DER SPIEGEL] When the British citizen John McCarthy was released, the kidnappers of the Western hostages said in a letter to UN Secretary General Perez de Cuellar that they were ready to release the other hostages within 24 hours. Meanwhile, several weeks have passed. Why has nothing happened?

[Fadlallah] I cannot disclose any details on the negotiations with the secretary general because the talks are currently in a decisive stage.

[DER SPIEGEL] Why do the kidnappers not release their hostages promptly?

[Fadlallah] Those who want to make policy must have patience and strong nerves. If I told you now what conditions have already been met and which ones have yet to be fulfilled, I would endanger a difficult process. All the parties involved in the conflict are pursuing their own goals.

[DER SPIEGEL] The Western countries want to have their citizens back, and the Israelis want to have information about their soldiers missing in Lebanon. A spokesman for Hizballah has said that your organization is holding two of the Israelis. Is that true?

[Fadlallah] Possibly. No one knows precisely where these men are.

[DER SPIEGEL] We do not believe you.

[Fadlallah] Well, nobody is ready to say who is holding the Israelis. I cannot tell you which hostages are alive and which are dead. Otherwise I would improve the negotiation position of our enemies and damage that of our side.

[DER SPIEGEL] In exchange for the release of the Western hostages you have demanded, in addition to the Palestinians and Lebanese held by Israel, the release of the Hammadi brothers who are imprisoned in Germany....

[Fadlallah] Either all or none are released. It is impossible that some hostages are released while others continue to be imprisoned. We want a complete solution. The subject of hostages must finally be concluded.

[DER SPIEGEL] The German Government holds the view that the Hammadi brothers are not hostages but criminals who were legitimately sentenced by a court. Therefore, they should not be included in a sort of hostage bazaar. Do you understand this attitude?

[Fadlallah] Of course. The Federal Government proceeds on the basis of legal criteria, but forgets the human dimension. I could imagine that nonetheless, it is possible to find a way out of this deadlock.

[DER SPIEGEL] The Americans could block it. Washington demands toughness toward terrorists.

[Fadlallah] We know that. After all, we have had our own experiences with the Americans. They have neglected their citizens who are held hostage in Lebanon and have made it clear by their behavior that they do not care whether their people are released or not. The Americans want to exploit the hostage drama politically. However, the Federal Republic is a sovereign state, and it is high time that it looked after its own interests. The Germans have always been so pragmatic and sensible. So, more courage, dear Germans!

[DER SPIEGEL] Several years ago, the German hostages Rudolf Cordes and Alfred Schmidt were released in Lebanon because money was allegedly paid for their freedom. Could such a solution not be repeated?

[Fadlallah] There is nothing less dignified than taking prisoners for money or releasing them for money. Regarding the definite solution of the hostage problem, the point is the release of human beings, and not a financial bargain.

[DER SPIEGEL] Are you demanding the inclusion of the Hammadi brothers in the hostage deal primarily for political or for humanitarian reasons?

[Fadlallah] For family reasons. The Hammadi family would not accept their sons being in German prisons.

[DER SPIEGEL] So there can be no hostage bazaar without the Hammadis?

[Fadlallah] That is correct.

[DER SPIEGEL] And not without Shaykh Ubayd, whom the Israelis kidnapped in southern Lebanon?

[Fadlallah] Of course. His release will cost the Americans a lot of money because the Israelis always charge highly for political concessions.

[DER SPIEGEL] Shaykh Fadlallah, can you guarantee that no German will be kidnapped in Lebanon in the future?

[Fadlallah] I cannot even guarantee the security of my own house. Therefore, I will not make a binding statement. However, I pray for Lebanon to regain peace and security. No one must be kidnapped here any more.

AFP Reports Shiites Fleeing Villages in South

NC0409075491 Paris AFP in English 0639 GMT 4 Sep 91

[By Jihad Siqlawi]

[Text] Tyre, Lebanon, Sept 4 (AFP)—One by one, the Shiite villages bordering Israel's self-declared "security zone" in south Lebanon are being emptied, their residents fleeing daily Israeli shelling.

"The Israelis are carrying out a real 'scorched earth' policy. They're trying to empty the villages to create a protective belt around the 'zone' and prevent them from being used as springboards for (anti-Israeli) resistance attacks," said a U.N. observer officer in Lebanon.

In less than a fortnight, three-quarters of the inhabitants in 10 villages facing the border strip have abandoned their homes, according to estimates by Lebanese security sources.

At Majdal Zun, which boasted 1,500 residents, only a few pensioners remain. "We go to sleep every night with our relatives in villages further off," said 'Abbas, a farmer who had stopped by to examine his house.

The population of the neighboring community of Bra'shit has shrunk from 5,000 to less than 1,000. That of Haddathah has gone from 2,000 to 500.

The sporadic but daily Israeli shelling has killed three civilians and wounded five others in two weeks.

It began after a series of deadly operations by pro-Iranian fundamentalists, which left six Israeli-backed South Lebanon Army (SLA) troops dead.

"We never know when the bombs will land on us. We don't dare go anywhere, we're completely paralyzed," said Umm 'Ali, a woman in her 50s who did not want to leave her father behind in Majdal Zun.

At Zibqin, villagers live in darkness. "We don't dare turn on the lights when the sun sets for fear they would shell lit up houses," said Badriyyah, 45. Even cars don't turn on their lights to avoid detection by SLA militiamen in positions overlooking the village.

To attend to their work in the fields, Zibqin's residents seek help from the Nepalese contingent of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) deployed around the village.

The troops wave the U.N. flag while the farmers collect their figs. "The Israelis' and SLA's firing don't spare our vehicles or UNIFIL or Red Cross ambulances when they try to enter these villages," an Irish UNIFIL officer said. He said that last month 10 Irish posts were hit 60 times by exploding shells and automatic weapons fire.

In the short term, the Israeli shelling has another aim which seems to have begun yielding results: to agitate the population against the armed presence of fundamentalists in the area from which they launch their anti-Israeli attacks. "Every time there's shelling, many people say it's the fault of the resistance (mostly Shiite groups), although the SLA often fires at us without there having been any operation," Badriyyh said.

Villagers organized several demonstrations in the past week and marched to the Lebanese Army barracks further north calling for the deployment of troops in their villages, to bar all other armed presence.

The Lebanese Army was deployed in February in south Lebanon but stopped short of the UNIFIL's zone of operations, taking up posts in and around the "security zone." On September 26, the Lebanese Government accused Israel of wanting to "push the region's population into an exodus." But it has as yet failed to implement a pledge to offer "support for the residents' resistance to face the occupier."

Israelis Overfly Beirut

NC0409102991 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0945 GMT 3 Sep 91

[Text] Israeli warplanes flew over Beirut and al-Biqa'and broke the sound barrier before 1200 today.

Israelis Actions Reported

NC0409084991 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic 0800 GMT 4 Sep 91

[Text] Our correspondent in the south has reported that the Israeli enemy and his agents have continued to shell and open sniper fire on southern villages, especially Bra'shit, Haddathah, Bayt Yahun, Shaqra, Tibnin, and (al-Jumayjimah).

Our correspondent added that these villages have been almost completely abandoned by their inhabitants.

Meanwhile, the town of Dayr Siryan in the occupied border strip is suffering from the acute lack of supplies due to the blockade that has been imposed on it for over one and a half months.

It has also been learned that the Israeli enemy has finished building a road for its military vehicles between al-Qunaytirah and al-Tayyibah.

Southern Villages Shelled

NC0209113491 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic 1030 GMT 2 Sep 91

[Text] The Israeli occupation forces and their militias last night heavily bombarded the villages of Bra'shit, Haris, Haddathah, 'Ayta al-Jabal, Tibnin, Shaqra, Safad, Mlikh, al-Luwayzah, Jarju', and Mlita.

The shelling of Bra'shit wounded many citizens and destroyed 36 houses. Bra'shit residents have demanded that government officials visit the village to see first hand how the occupation forces act.

U.S. Said Behind Israel's 'Antipeace Stand'

JN0309101391 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0720 GMT 3 Sep 91

[Text] Damascus, 3 Sep (SANA)—The newspaper AL-THAWRAH says in a commentary today under the headline "The Israeli Challenge," the major challenge confronting international efforts to establish peace in the Middle East lies in Israel's antipeace stand and its attempts to deal a blow to the international conference, thwarting it before it even convenes.

It adds that the conditions for the success of the conference and the requirements for convening it must begin by confronting this challenge effectively and forcefully. By confronting the challenges, subsequent conditions can force Israel to submit to international will and legitimacy and agree to fully implement the UN resolutions on the dispute and its subsidiary issues, which would result in restoring rights and land to their legitimate owners. To do so would befit the principle that was originally specified for the peace process—the principle of land for peace.

The newspaper AL-THAWRAH concludes: If Israel's defiance of the international community, belligerence, arrogance, and evasiveness are not confronted on this basis, the international conference will lose its importance, and peace efforts will continue to be a waste of time. These efforts will end up casting doubts on international credibility.

There is no doubt that the United States can play a basic role in providing the requirements for the success of the international peace conference. Afterall, the United States is the country that provides Israel with all the elements for its existence and means of sustenance which have been, and will continue to be, the reason for Israel's stubborn antipeace stand and its attempts to blow apart every honest effort to realize stability and peace in the region.

U.S. Credibility Undermined by Loans to Israel

JN0409073191 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1130 GMT 31 Aug 91

[Station commentary]

[Text] Gentlemen: Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir objected to Egyptian condemnation of the large-scale settlement-building in the occupied Arab territory and considered this to be interference in Israel's affairs. Shamir said: Sharon's settlement plans are the plans of the entire government. Earlier, Sharon had disclosed Israeli preparations to expand the Jewish settlements in the West Bank to absorb scores of thousands of settlers. Sharon said: Expanding Jerusalem to cover more West Bank lands is a vital thing; and greater Jerusalem will accommodate 1 million Jews.

Yitzhaq Shamir alleged that the Egyptian attacks on settlement minister Ari'el Sharon do not encourage the peace process. [half-minute break in transmission] The Geneva Convention on the situation of the people under occupation bans altering the features of land or displacing and evicting people. The Geneva Convention holds the United Nations responsible for protecting them and taking care of their rights.

Security Council Resolution No. 242 affirms the inadmissibility of taking territory by force or war. The United States has many times called on the Government of Israel to stop their settlement-building in the occupied Arab territory; it considered the Zionist settlements a major obstacle to achieving a permanent and comprehensive peace in the Middle East. The USSR, the European countries, China, and India condemned the Zionist settlements. In fact, the whole world was unanimous on the need to stop the settlements and denounced Israel's practices. All countries urged the Government of Israel to stop building settlements and to respect the rights of the Palestinian people.

However, all resolutions and calls have fallen on deaf ears in Israel. The Zionists were so impudent that they considered the usurpation of Palestine, the displacement of its people, and the violations of international laws, principles, and resolutions an internal Israeli affair. They even believe that opposing the most serious crime in the contemporary history—that is, the crime of Zionist settlements—constitutes a threat to peace. It is as if peace, about which Israel speaks, means usurpation of a whole country, annihilation of an entire people, violation of the principles and bases of international relations that were laid down by humanity throughout history, and a return to the law of the jungle.

Israel was even more impudent when it spoke about guarantees from the United States and Germany in the form of loans that would reach tens of billions of dollars to settle Jewish settlers in occupied Arab territory. Israel does not only seek to blackmail Washington and Bonn, and entangle them in an action that is hostile to Arab interests, but also to torpedo the peace efforts and undermine the conference called for by the United States and the USSR.

Offering big loans, as requested by Israel, will not only undermine confidence between the United States and the Arab countries, but will also destroy U.S. credibility and international legitimacy, and lead to the collapse of the United Nations and its institutions.

It is natural that safeguarding peace and achieving a fair and permanent settlement in the Middle East, in accordance with Washington's commitment, calls for confronting the expansionist Israeli schemes, containing them, and preventing aid to the Shamir government. That government behaves as if the international community were at its disposal; it devours Arabs lands as if they were its property. It has exceeded all limits in its practices that are hostile to peace and to international principles and charters.

It is time the world put a limit on Israel's graceful criminal behavior. Nobody in the world is not aware that achieving the long-sought-after peace in the Middle East requires complete Israeli withdrawal from the occupied Arab territory and securing the rights of the people of Palestine to their land, homeland, and future.

What the government of Shamir is doing is in fact an entrenchment of occupation, repression, aggression, and annexation, and an abortion of peaceful efforts on the part of the United States and the international community. Consequently, there is no alternative to a daring, firm stand that will straighten out matters, restore Israel's reason, and save the Middle East from the disasters of a conflict the results of which will threaten overall world peace.

Commentary on Peace Conference, Settlement Policy

JN0409063591 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1130 GMT 3 Sep 91

[Station commentary]

[Text] Gentlemen: Many Israelis are now wondering about their entity's economic future. The Shamir government allocated the greatest part of its budget to absorbing and settling immigrant Jews and to serving the needs of the war ministry. At the same time, Israel announced that efforts are under way to borrow tens of millions of dollars from the United States and Germany to be devoted to the newcomers.

Some Israelis in the Zionist entity are raising their voices, warning of wasting all these huge funds on settlement projects in the occupied Arab territories which Israel will have to abandon in the future. People in the Shamir government, however, are acting as though they were racing against time. They believe that they will be able to keep the occupied territories if they succeed in flooding these territories with settlers and changing their demographic composition.

Thus, not a single day passes without new plans being revealed to build tens of thousands of housing units. Ari'el Sharon has deliberately sought to buy ready-made houses and caravans to impose an accomplished fact, deeming it his primary objective to judaize Jerusalem, maintain a Jewish majority, and double the number of settlers in the Golan and the West bank. Sharon's plans also talk of settling 1 million Soviet Jews.

Naturally, such plans require huge amounts of financing which cannot be provided by the Israeli budget. The paramount factor in the settlement hysteria that grips the Israeli decisionmakers is not the settler as a human being, but as a figure to be added to the group of settlers; as part of the expansionist settlement project. Zionist officials, in other words, consider the settlement plans a step on the road toward accomplishing their expansionist objectives, even if this was at the expense of the settler himself or the security and safety of the entire region.

Settlement is the antithesis of peace. Israel will not be able to fool anybody in the world with its alleged peaceful intentions so long as it is clinging to occupation and annexation, and changing the features of the occupied Arab territories.

The international community expressed deep concern over the Zionist settlement policy. The United States repeatedly urged the Shamir government to stop building settlements and deemed such practices the only obstacle to the aspired just settlement in the Middle East. In fact, the Middle East peace conference, which the United States and the USSR insist on convening, would lose all its substance if the full-blown settlement policy in the occupied territories continues.

Having responded sincerely and responsibly to the U.S. proposals and shown clear readiness to achieve peace, the Arabs are waiting, in return, to retrieve all the occupied territories. No Arab has in mind the abandonment of Jerusalem or any other occupied city or territory, or engaging in pointless arguments over the strange, bizarre Israeli interpretations of the UN Security Council resolutions.

The Security Council resolutions have condemned the policy of seizing territory by force or war. They also condemned settlement, and considered the Israeli annexation of Jerusalem and the Golan null and void. At the same time, these resolutions asserted the Palestinian people's inalienable rights in their homeland.

The Arabs expect the peace conference to enforce these resolutions and to straighten things out. No peace can coexist with occupation, oppression, humiliation, and the annexation of territories by force and planting them with settlements. In fact, the Arabs would view with doubt and suspicion any attempt to support Israel with huge funds that are quickly transformed into settlements and population centers.

U.S. President George Bush yesterday expressed his certain determination to pursue peace efforts. The USSR foreign minister expressed a similar determination. Israeli practices, however, absolutely do not signal any inclination toward peace. These practices constitute a stab to every serious endeavor. The Zionist settlement policy has not been faced with the appropriate, firm denunciation, considering what is taking place in the occupied territories.

India

Commanders Meet To View Kashmir Border Clashes

BK0309130891 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 1230 GMT 3 Sep 91

[Text] A flag meeting at the level of brigade commanders of the Indian and Pakistani armies was held today to discuss the recent incidents in the Punch sector. An official spokesman said in New Delhi today that there has been no firing in the Punch sector along the Line of Control in Jammu and Kashmir since last night.

Agreement To Avoid Incidents Reached

BK0309155291 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 1530 GMT 3 Sep 91

[Text] The local commanders of the Indian and Pakistani Army units in the Punch sector in Jammu and Kashmir have agreed to take steps to avoid any untoward incident in future. A flag meeting at the level of brigade commanders was held at the line of control today to defuse tension on the border in the light of recent incidents of shelling and firing. The meeting was held at Pakistan's request.

The Indian Army handed over to Pakistan the bodies of an Army officer and a soldier. These bodies had been left behind by the Pakistani troops when the Indian Army cleared their encroachment in the Karni sector on Sunday [1 September]. An Army spokesman told our Jammu correspondent that a large cache of arms and ammunition was left behind by the Pakistanis.

An official spokesman said in New Delhi today that there has been no firing in the Punch sector along the line of control since last night.

Pakistan Radio Reports on Kashmir 'Exaggerated'

BK0309145491 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 1430 GMT 3 Sep 91

[Text] A study has shown that Pakistan Radio has been making exaggerated claims about what has been happening in the Kashmir Valley. Official sources in New Delhi said that this has been particularly noticed in reports broadcast by Pakistan Radio about casualties of Indian security forces. The radio claimed 161 casualties of security men in the valley in the first fortnight of last month, while the actual number was just four. Similarly, it also claimed that 65 militants were killed during the period, while the actual figure was 38. It has also given an inflated figure of the injured, apparently to keep up the morale of the militants, the sources added.

15 People Killed in Kashmir Valley

BK0409080491 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0730 GMT 4 Sep 91

[Text] In the Kashmir Valley, 15 persons, including six militants, have been killed in a major encounter between the militants and the security forces near Pulwama town. An official spokesman said in Srinagar that the documents recovered from the site of the encounter indicate that the place was being used as the terrorist training camp. Nine civilians were also killed in the heavy cross firing between the militants and the security forces.

2 Killed in Bomb Blast at Kashmir Hindu Temple

BK0209165591 Hong Kong AFP in English 1654 GMT 2 Sep 91

[Text] Jammu, India, Sept 2 (AFP)—A powerful bomb went off outside a Hindu temple here late Monday, instantly killing at least two people and seriously injuring seven more, police said.

The two confirmed dead were a woman and a child, police said, and the injured were in hospital.

The blast, blamed by police on unidentified militants, took place as some 10,000 devotees were assembled at the Durgayana Shrine on the occasion of the birth anniversary celebrations of Krishna, a Hindu god.

There have been reports in the past of violence involving either Muslim or Sikh militants in Jammu, winter capital of the northern Indian state of Jammu and Kashmir.

Moslem militants, however, are active chiefly in the state's Muslim-majority Kashmir Valley, including Srinagar, which is the summer capital of the northern border state.

Sikhs are leading a similar bloody secessionist campaign in neigbouring Punjab state.

24 Injured; Curfew Imposed

BK0309051491 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0245 GMT 3 Sep 91

[Text] In Jammu, 24 persons were injured in a bomb blast near Raghunath Temple last night. Most of the injured were devotees visiting the temple for Janmashtami [Hindu festival] celebrations. Two suspects behind the bomb blast have been arrested. A precautionary curfew was imposed in the old city area for the night as groups of youths protesting against the bomb blast indulged in damaging vehicles and government property. There is no curfew in any part of the city now. The government has ordered educational institutions in the city closed for the day today.

1 Killed, 20 Injured in Ludhiana Bomb Blast

BK0409091491 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0830 GMT 4 Sep 91

[Text] In Punjab, 1 person was killed and 20 others, including a deputy superintendent of police [DSP], were injured in a powerful bomb blast in Ludhiana city this morning. According to an official spokesman, the bomb was planted in an abandoned scooter. The condition of the DSP is said to be out of danger.

In Patiala District, six militants were killed in two separate incidents of intergang rivalry in Patran Ghaga area late last night.

Prime Minister To Elicit More German Investment

BK0409035491 Hong Kong AFP in English 0121 GMT 4 Sep 91

[Text] New Delhi, Sep 4 (AFP)—Prime Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao travels to Bonn on Thursday to introduce Germany to Indian culture and to try to persuade Germans to invest in an economy he is trying to open up to the world.

The three-day visit will be Rao's first overseas trip since he became premier on June 22, after the assassination of his Congress (I) Party leader Rajiv Gandhi by a suicide bomber in the midst of general elections.

Rao, 70 and a former foreign minister, is going to Germany to keep a commitment Gandhi made during a 1988 visit to Bonn—to open a festival of Indian culture, performing arts and cinema which starts Saturday.

But he will also use the chance to assess more pragmatic issues, such as German aid and investment, in talks with Chancellor Helmut Kohl and businessmen who will hear from him of the far reaching economic reforms he has unveiled.

German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher said Rao would have an attentive audience.

"We notice the Indian prime minister chose Germany for his first trip abroad after taking office," Genscher told the PRESS TRUST OF INDIA (PTI) in Bonn in an interview released here Tuesday.

"He is sure to meet in Germany with attentive and sympathetic friends."

Whether Rao will win a promise to increase economic assistance from the 395 million German marks (687 million dollars) pledged last year is in doubt at a time when Bonn is burdened with the huge costs of absorbing the former East Germany, in whose reconstruction India is seeking a role.

But German businessmen should still be interested in putting more into India's liberalised economy and are waiting to hear directly from Rao of the incentives he is offering foreign investors, officials here say.

Rao's fledgling administration has freed business from an array of controls and licences and eased foreign investment restrictions that discouraged most foreign investors.

All foreign investment proposals, the government says, are being cleared on the "fast track," and export-oriented units will be allowed to hold wholly-owned subsidiaries.

For India, a country which has traditionally shunned outside investment as a potential threat to its hitherto heavily-controlled and largely self-sufficient economy, such measures are thought to be of revolutionary character.

German investment in India is a miniscule 0.2 percent of its overall overseas commitments, according to statistics released here. Last year it totalled just 7.5 million dollars.

On Friday, Rao will try to convince German industrialists at a face-to-face meeting that India deserves more. A team of top Indian businessmen is going to Bonn on the same mission and to investigate hi-tech possibilities in areas like telecommunications and computer software.

The Indian premier will also seek German reassurances to put at rest New Delhi's fears of the possible creation of a protectionist "fortress Europe" once the continent unifies into a single economic entity by 1992.

Germany is India's chief European trading partner, with New Delhi's exports totalling about a billion dollars and imports 1.3 billion.

India is hoping the recent 18-percent devaluation of the rupee, which made its goods cheaper abroad, will increase demand in Germany for its products, including readymade garments, cotton fabrics, carpets, tea and jute.

Rao and Kohl will also discuss international political developments, including the events following the failed coup in the Soviet Union, with which both countries have strong ties, officials said.

The Indian premier has preferred to put behind him remarks made by a German diplomat who accused New Delhi of over-armament and of hankering to be a world power when it was not yet one.

Georg Jurgens, Germany's deputy consul-general in Bombay, cast a shadow over Rao's international debut as premier when he said at an August 27 seminar that India was still suffering from "birth defects."

He said India came into independence "too big, too heavy, too significant, too overrated," and charged that New Delhi had isolated itself by neglecting the West and of having been over-dependent on the Soviet Union.

"The Germans have clarified he was voicing his personal views so we have decided to forget it," a senior Foreign Ministry official said. "This is certainly not going to affect the trip."

President Meets Afghan President's Special Envoy

BK0409091691 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0830 GMT 4 Sep 91

[Text] India will continue to work for a free, sovereign, and independent Afghanistan through peaceful negotiations. This was conveyed to the first vice president and special envoy of the Afghanistan president, Mr. Abdul Rahim Hatif, when he called on the president, Mr. R.

Venkataraman, in New Delhi today. During the meeting, Mr. Hatif apprised the president of the efforts being made for a solution of the Afghan problem.

Talks With Nepal on Trade, Hydroelectric Power

BK0309103491 Delhi Doordarshan Television Network in English 1600 GMT 2 Sep 91

[Text] The India-Nepal high-level task force at its second meeting in New Delhi today discussed issues relating to economic cooperation between the two countries. The Nepalese delegation is led by the chief secretary of that country, Mr. Damodar Prasad Gautam, while the Indian side is led by the cabinet secretary, Mr. Naresh Chandra. Hydroelectric generation and other developmental projects were discussed in detail. The high-level task force was set up to prepare a basic program for cooperation in areas where proposals have been pending for a long time to strengthen relations between the two countries. The first meeting of the task force was held in Kathmandu on the 4th of August this year.

Agreement Reached on Economic Program

BK0309162891 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 1230 GMT 3 Sep 91

[Text] India and Nepal have expressed confidence that a comprehensive program of economic cooperation between the two countries will be finalized by next month. Speaking to newsmen after the meeting of the India-Nepal high-level task force in New Delhi today, the leaders of the two delegations said substantial progress has been made toward giving a new tone to bilateral relations. The Indian side at the two-day meeting was led by the cabinet secretary, Mr. Naresh Chandra, while the Nepalese chief secretary, Mr. Damodar Prasad Gautam, headed his country's delegation.

Commentary on Bangladesh Foreign Minister's Visit

BK0209134891 Delhi All India Radio General Overseas Service in English 1010 GMT 2 Sep 91

[S.C. Bhatt Commentary]

[Text] An event of much importance in India's relations with her next door neighbor to the east, the Republic of Bangladesh, was the recent visit of Dhaka's foreign minister to New Delhi. No doubt, it was overshadowed by major changes in the Soviet Union and significant developments at home. But in the context of South Asia, Mr. A.S. Mustafizur Rahman's talks in Delhi have their own significance. This was the first high-level contact between the government of Prime Minister P. V. Narasimha Rao and that of Begum Khaleda Zia after both of them came to power. In Bangladesh, there was a virtual revolution in which the military dictator Ershad was compelled to surrender power and restore democratic rule in the country. In India, elections held in May and June this year brought the Congress-I back to power. Pending issues came up for discussion in the talks held by Mr. Rahman with the external affairs minister, Mr. Madhavsinh Solanki. The problem of the water of River Ganges figured in the parleys. A branch of this river goes to Bangladesh from West Bengal state of India and another one serves to keep the river port of Calcutta—one of the biggest river ports in the world—going. How much water should be allowed to flow down to Bangladesh has been debated by the two neighbors for years. They recognize that a solution lies only in enhancing the flow of the water in the river by augmenting the supply from other sources. But this is a long term affair.

The other issue which the two foreign ministers covered in the talks related to the Chakma refugees who have taken shelter into India's Tripura state for the past several years. The Chakmas are tribals whose home is in the Chittagong hills in Bangladesh and they are Buddhist by faith in a predominately Muslim country. They not only suffered encroachment on their land by the plains people in Bangladesh, but also religious discrimination. Things have, however, turned favorable recently and some form of local autonomy has been introduced in the hilly tract from where the refugees come from. Bangladesh, no doubt, has been asking India to send the Chakmas back, but the refugees have not felt so far safe and not returned to their homeland. The Rahman-Solanki talks were frank, but we will have to wait to see if any solution to the Chakma issue has yet emerged.

The talks were no doubt useful and held in a cordial atmosphere. What is more important, however, is that some concrete decisions on economic cooperation between the two neighbors were taken during Mr. Rahman's visit. He himself signed with his Indian counterpart a double taxation avoidance agreement which should help airlines and shipping companies to begin with. The Indian foreign secretary and the Bangladesh high commissioner in Delhi signed in the presence of the two foreign ministers a 300-million rupee credit agreement. This credit would enable Bangladesh top buy machinery for textiles, sugar, jute, paper and cement industry from India, as well as transport and telecommunications equipment. India has been extending such credit to Dhaka for the two decades that it has been in existence as a sovereign nation after its liberation from Pakistan. The two ministers also discussed the imbalanace in the trade between the two countries. For India, Bangladesh is an important market for their exports—being 11th in the order. But the trade in the reverse direction is rather small by comparison. Mr. Solanki told Mr. Rahman that India understood Dhaka's concern in the matter. Presumably, the matter will be further discussed in depth at the forthcoming joint commission talks in the Bangladesh capital before the end of the year. As Mr. Rahman left New Delhi for the central Indian town of Ajmer on a pilgrimage to the shrine of a saint, he expressed satsifaction over the outcome of his visit. The two nations are determined to bring about further improvement in their ties.

Minister on Need To Enhance Australian Trade

BK0309110091 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0730 GMT 3 Sep 91

[Text] The commerce minister, Mr. P. Chidambaram, says that India and Australia should forge a strategic alliance to enhance the existing small level of trade. Inaugurating the fifth meeting of the India-Australia joint business council in New Delhi today, he said there was a tremendous scope for strengthening economic ties between the two countries, especially in the light of the liberalized foreign investment policy announced by India. He called on the Australian side to look beyond ASEAN countries to enhance trade with India, which offers superior engineering skill, inexpensive labor, and diverse product range. Mr. Chidambaram said the proposal for setting up a coal-fired power plant in Madras with Australian assistance should be followed up.

'Anticommunist Provocations' in USSR Criticized

BK0209132891 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 1230 GMT 2 Sep 91

[Text] The CPI [Communist Party of India] has criticized the anticommunist provocations in the Soviet Union. In a resolution adopted by the national council of the party in New Delhi, it said the course of events in USSR have helped to project Mr. Boris Yeltsin as the foremost champion of democracy. The party expressed concern that this position is being misused to unleash an anticommunist mob hysteria. The party also severely criticized the abortive coup and said the most negative fallout of it has been strengthening of disintegration forces and the weakening of Mr. Gorbachev's authority. It said the new democratic consciousness of the Soviet people created by perestroyka and glasnost had been totally underestimated by the conspirators.

Stances of CPI, CPI-M Viewed

BK0309160091 Hong Kong AFP in English 0915 GMT 3 Sep 91

[Text] New Delhi, Sept 3 (AFP)—After a week of introspection on the failed Kremlin coup, India's two main communist parties have taken sharply conflicting postures on the restoration of Mikhail Gorbachev to the Soviet presidency.

The hardline Communist Party of India-Marxist (CPI-M) broke its silence Monday evening by describing the coup's collapse as a setback for the socialist movement which, it said, had been threatened by Gorbachev's reformist policies.

The moderate, pro-Moscow Communist Party of India (CPI), the CPI-M's junior partner in a leftist coalition ruling West Bengal State, mildly rebuked the Soviet leader for "errors and failures" frustrating reforms.

But it hailed the coup's failure, terming the attempt by Kremlin hardliners to seize power as an "extra-constitutional adventure," and seeing in its failure an indication that democracy had taken deep root in the Soviet Union.

The conflicting stands were an illustration of the differences in India's large communist movement, influential sections of which are still unreconciled to Gorbachev's reforms and the crumbling of communist bastions in Eastern Europe.

Both CPI-M and CPI, which claim millions of cadres and traditionally have looked towards Moscow for their ideological moorings, held a week of top-level consultations before coming out Monday with resolutions on the Kremlin events.

The CPI-M, ridiculed by opponents for failing to come to terms with the retreat of socialism, decided to stick to its hardline stand after having praised the mounting of the abortive coup as a "positive development."

Pointedly, it left out the traditional suffix "comrade" before Gorbachev's name in the statement it released to the press, said six years of reform had endangered the unity of the Soviet Union and threatened the base of socialism.

Forces advocating capitalism, "national chauvinism," separatism and ethnic strife had been fanned by Gorbachev, the CPI-M said, calling the August 19 coup "an attempt to check these trends."

"Gains of 74 years (since the October 1917 communist revolution) have been given up by the people," said the CPI-M.

"The dismantling of the socialist system and the breaking up of the Soviet Union deprives India and Third World countries of a reliable ally warding off imperialist pressures.

"More importantly, the breakup of the multinational Soviet Union will give a fillip to the secessionist forces in India, who are backed by imperialism," it warned.

Russian Republic President Boris Yeltsin, instrumental in thwarting the coup, was portrayed by the party as an ally of "imperialist forces" spearheading the "counter-revolutionary offensive."

In contrast, the CPI hailed Yeltsin as "the foremost champion of democracy and defender of the people's rights against the tanks and guns of the coupists."

But it joined the Marxists—who broke away from the CPI in 1964—in condemning anti-communist "hysteria" in the Soviet Union following the coup and reaffirming that there was no alternative to socialism.

Indian communists hold the distinction of heading the world's first democratically-elected Marxist government,

achieving the feat in 1957 when the southern state of Kerala voted them to power.

They have also governed West Bengal uninterruptedly since 1977, and at the national level have an influential voice in parliament.

But the crumbling of communist governments in Eastern Europe left them baffled, and the Marxists derided Gorbachev for betraying Marxist-Leninist principles by introducing his perestroyka and glasnost reforms.

Spokesman on U.S., UN Ambassador's Visit

BK0309153291 Delhi ISI Diplomatic Information Service in English 1500 GMT 3 Sep 91

["Spokesman's response to a question on the [recently concluded] visit of U.S. representative to the UN, Mr. Thomas Pickering—dated 27th August, 1991"]

[Text] Mr. Thomas Pickering is visiting India on his own initiative. Discussions are on the agenda for the forthcoming UN General Assembly and other issues to be taken up by the Security Council, including Iraq and the secretary general's election. The U.S. has no particular candidate for the post of secretary general. However, they would like to have as many candidates as possible. President Bush will then take a final decision.

Regarding expansion of the permanent membership of the UN Security Council, Pickering expressed full understanding of the aspirations of those who wish to see the franchise enlarged. He, however, urged the concerned nations to work out a package for the revision of the Charter. [Words indistinct] should not be taken lightly. It has to be done after due deliberation by all concerned. Long-term interest of UN should not be lost sight of, while examining the possibility of expanding the Security Council permanent membership.

While talking about NAM [Nonaligned Movement] and other issues of disputes like Kashmir between India and Pakistan, Pickering said that the UN should be only the last resort for sorting out problems. He made these observations in general terms and there were no specifics.

Rao Confident Government To Complete 5-Year Term

BK0109145291 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 1430 GMT 1 Sep 91

[Text] The prime minister, Mr. P.V. Narasimha Rao, has underlined the need for a tension-free and cooperative relationship between India and Pakistan for peace and stability in the region. In an interview with the Dubayy-based daily, he expressed the hope that Islamabad will stop aiding terrorist and secessionist forces in India to create a right climate for such relationship.

The prime minister expressed the confidence that the Congress-I government will complete full five-year term as it has received encouraging cooperation from all political parties. He reiterated his government's commitment to restoring normalcy and starting the democratic process in Punjab at the earliest.

Regarding elections in Jammu and Kashmir, the prime minister said no dates could be declared right now since no political activity can take place under the prevailing situation.

Satellite Launching System Expected by 1998

BK0209151691 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 1430 GMT 2 Sep 91

[Text] India hopes to acquire its own satellite launching system by 1998 when IRS-1D is scheduled to be launched. It is expected that by that time, PSLV—Polar Satellite Launching Vehicle—will become operational. This was revealed by Professor U.R. Rao, secretary of the Ministry of Space, while briefing newsmen in New Delhi today on his return from Moscow after the successful launching of IRS-1B.

Professor Rao said that IRS-1C will also be launched from Baykonur in 1994, and for this a 30-crore-rupee contract has been signed with the Soviet Union. He said that with the continued information available through IRS-1A and IRS-1B India is now poised for a sustained development of its natural resources. Professor Rao also said that the pictures provided by the IRS-1B indicate increasing deforestation in the country. In a decade, the forest cover has come down from 14 percent to 11 percent.

Iran

Security Council Respects Changes in USSR

LD0309165791 Tehran IRIB Television First Program Network in Persian 1630 GMT 3 Aug 91

[Text] The Supreme National Security Council held a session this afternoon chaired by Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani with the participation of political and military advisers. At the session the trend of rapid developments in the Soviet Union, the disintegration of Marxism, and the creation of new grounds for the sociopolitical life of the people of the Soviet Union's republics were assessed. It was announced that the Islamic Republic of Iran respects the views and wishes of the people, respects any agreement reached between the central government and the various republics, and announced its readiness to cooperate and assist in all political, economic, and cultural fields with the republics based on mutual respect and good-neighborliness.

At that session, hope was expressed that the trend of liberation continues and that the peoples of the region can reach stability and prosperity, thus expanding their culture after passing through this tumultuous period.

Belgian Minister Arrives for Export Conference

LD0309070391 Tehran IRNA in English 0529 GMT 3 Sep 91

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 3, IRNA—Belgian Minister of Foreign Trade Robert Urbain heading an economic and trade delegation arrived here on a two-day visit at the invitation of Commerce Minister 'Abdol Huseyn Vahaji Tuesday morning.

Urbain, accompanied by a number of officials and representatives of the Belgian private sector, is to explore Iran's export potential to Belgium and the European Community (EC) with Ministers of Economy and Financial Affairs Mohsen Nurbakhsh and Mines and Metals Mohammad Hoseyn Mahlujchi. Belgium is a member of the EC.

Interviewed upon arrival, the Belgian minister said he is in Tehran to take part in the first international conference on promotion of non-oil exports inaugurated Monday with the aim to examine ways of expanding Iran-EC cooperation.

He termed Tehran-Brussels relations as good, adding that Belgium attaches special importance to its ties with Iran. Urbain also said his country is capable of providing Iran with the required technology.

Tehran and Brussels signed a letter of understanding on bilateral scientific, technical and industrial cooperation during Vahaji's visit to Belgium last spring. Meanwhile, the next session of Iran-Belgium joint economic commission is to be held in Brussels in late winter.

Meets With Vahhaji

LD0309124191 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0930 GMT 3 Sep 91

[Text] Expansion of economic, commercial, and industrial relations between the Islamic Republic of Iran and Belgium was discussed this morning in a meeting of the commerce ministers of the two countries. In this meeting Mr. Urbain, foreign trade minister of Belgium, and Mr. Vahhaji, commerce minister, stressed the expansion of relations between the two countries, notably in the field of increasing trade exchanges, information, and expert exchanges, joint industrial and economic investments and also, the convening of the second joint economic-commercial commission of the two countries. The Belgium foreign trade minister said his country would like to expand existing relations. He added: As one of Iran's trade partners, we would like to fortify the expansion of our cooperation with Iran. He continued: Belgium can cooperate actively in various fields especially the provision of energy, transport, mass communications, light industry and the mining sector which have been envisaged in the five-year plan.

Mr. Vahhaji, our country's commerce minister, also, while expressing Iran's interest in extending existing relations, said: The expansion and strengthening of these relations, especially in the field of technology could lead to some positive achievements for the two nations.

Ambassador Views Relations With West, Iraq, Gulf

PM0309134791 London SAWT AL-KUWAYT AL-DUWALI in Arabic 29 Aug 91 p 9

[Interview with Hosein Sadeqi, ambassador to Kuwait, by 'Abdallah 'Uthman in Kuwait; date not given]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] ['Uthman] The United States and Europe are relying on Iran's efforts to help in resolving the hostage issue. What stage has been reached in these efforts and steps?

[Sadeqi] The steps taken by this side should be met by steps from the other side, and the United States and Europe should display good intention in these matters. There are hostages of ours in Lebanon whom we still know nothing about. And there are also Muslim hostages in Israel. So practical and major steps should be taken in this regard.

['Uthman] Iranian-Iraqi relations advanced during the war and have stopped during the peace. Why?

[Sadeqi] During the crisis Iraq pinned big hopes on the Iranian position. And the Iraqis know for certain that the republic's position is decisive with regard to the region's crisis. The Iranian position differs from the other states' positions. This is why Baghdad embarked on improving its relations with us one week before the crisis. And they started to resolve the problems that were pending before the cease-fire, like the question of returning to the international border and releasing the POW's. The Iraqis started to take positive steps toward Iran in the hope that we would sympathize with them in the future. In fact, we did not know their intentions exactly. We were willing to improve these relations in the future, because Iraq is a neighboring country and we have long borders with it. So our relations should be good. When we announced our frank position on the invasion the Iraqis were surprised by it, since it was not what they had imagined. As a result they halted the talks and sent figures and officials to win over the Iranian position. We said on several occasions that we would not accept any geographical change in the region, even if Kuwait agreed to give one single inch. We would not agree. This position is on record and is known. The Iraqis tried to enter by the back door to bargain with us, but they could not!

After the crisis ended and the large-scale people's uprising was launched in Iraq we took our stance of opposition to the oppression being inflicted on the Iraqi people. We could not remain silent and see human rights being violated. This is not interference. We demanded that Iraq end its persecution and repression of its people.

['Uthman] The Iranian leadership is demanding that Saddam Husayn be toppled. Is it working for that?

[Sadeqi] In principle, the Iraqi Government is not popular and the Iraqi people do not want it, and toppling the regime is the people's will. I believe that the Iraqi people have reached that conclusion, and we respect the Iraqi people's opinion.

['Uthman] Iran is strengthening its dialogue with the Arab states, Saudi Arabia in particular. How do you see the future of that dialogue?

[Sadeqi] Our relations with the region's countries and the Arab countries outside the region are in a state of constant improvement. The cordial relations started during the crisis. We worked to ensure that our relations were good with all states. Besides, we have common aims with the Gulf states, and they are given precedence in terms of relations. In the past some parties sought to obstruct the establishment of cordial relations among the region's states. They tried to distort Iran's image. But now the states are proceeding from a new position on the basis that they should forget the past and turn a new page. We want to bolster these relations so that some of the negative aspects will not affect our relations. With regard to Saudi Arabia, there were some minor negative aspects, but they have now been eliminated and we expect a positive future for relations with Saudi Arabia. We are optimistic about them. [passage omitted]

U.S.-Kuwait Agreement Poses 'Grave Dangers'

NC0109113291 Paris AFP in English 0810 GMT 1 Sep 91

[Excerpt] Tehran, Sept 1 (AFP)—The pro-government Tehran Times on Sunday criticised Kuwait's plan to sign a security agreement with the United States, saying that the presence of American forces in the region would pose "grave dangers."

"The presence of the American forces and the possibility of their intervention in the region pose grave dangers for all of the regional countries," the English-language newspaper said.

"The most sensible and practicable way of putting an end to tensions in the region and Iraq's adventurism is for Kuwait and other countries in the region to try to work out a scheme with the collaboration af all countries in the region instead of turning to foreign forces.

"Kuwait should realize that only by relying on such a regional security pact and the cooperation of the other countries in the region, will they be able to safeguard their security and prevent the intervention of foreign countries who will always be seeking their own ends," the daily said. [passage omitted]

Paper Urges Regional Security for Kuwait

LD0109120291 Tehran IRNA in English 0946 GMT 1 Sep 91

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 1, IRNA—The editorial in the English daily TEHRAN TIMES Sunday called on Kuwait and other regional countries to work out a security scheme with cooperation of all regional countries instead of turning to foreign forces for their safety.

Commenting on the present situation in the Persian Gulf region, the recent world developments and the foreseeable wave of the geographical changes, the English daily wrote, "The presence of the American forces and the possibility of their intervention in the region, pose grave dangers for all of the regional countries."

Referring to the latest Iraqi adventurism in the Kuwaiti Bubiyan island, the paper said, "The greatest consequence of the border clashes would be to justify and later stabilize Kuwait's security pact with the West."

The paper concluded by saying that the Kuwaitis should understand that only by relying on such a regional security scheme and cooperation with other regional states, they will be able to safeguard their security and prevent intervention of foreign countries who are always after protecting their own interests in the region.

Majles Deputy Says Communism 'Doomed to Atrophy'

NC0309080691 Tehran JAHAN-E ESLAM in Persian 22 Aug 91 p 2

[Interview with Ayatollah Sadeq Khalkhali, Qom deputy in the Majles and member of the Majles Foreign Policy Committee, by unidentified JAHAN-E ELSAM parliamentary correspondent in Tehran—date not given]

[Excerpts] [passage omitted] The Qom deputy in the Islamic Majles has said: There is no doubt that Gorbachev's attitude toward the Third World revealed many of his shortcomings. However, the freedom he gave the countries of the Communist bloc and its satellite states, exemplified by German unification and the developments in Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Bulgaria, and Poland, is a valuable achievement that cannot be erased in a single stroke.

The member of the Majles Foreign Policy Committee added: I believe that Mr. Gorbachev has achieved a major feat by shaking and uprooting the communist system. Communism will never be able to take root again and is doomed to atrophy. The current efforts amount to flogging a dead horse. [passage omitted]

Mr. Khalkhali said: In my opinion, whether Yeltsin or someone else comes to power is not important. What is important is the will of the people who have endured severe tribulations throughout the 75 years of Communist rule, suffering torture and deprivation. Even though they felt this deprivation acutely, they unfortunately were unable to do anything to change their situation and had to focus all their energy on the effort to simply survive. [passage omitted]

Regarding the effects of the events in the USSR on Soviet-Iranian relations, Mr. Khalkhali said: Of course, our relations with the Soviet Union are sensitive, as we

share our largest border with this northern neighbor. We should move ahead cautiously and examine what happens in the Soviet Union, especially in Moscow. The world, in short, is waiting for extraordinary events, and we should not become negligent in this regard.

The Qom deputy, Mr. Khalkhali, then told our correspondent: These people should learn that the people's wishes are of utmost priority and should be respected. They should not forget the fate of dictators like Ceausescu and should never attempt any kind of massacre.

Paper Views Western Hand in Soviet Events

NC0209143091 Tehran JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI in Persian 26 Aug 91 pp 1, 14

[Editorial: "The West Is Behind the Soviet Developments"]

[Excerpts] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful.

The fate and fortune of the Soviet republics are uncertain following the recent, swift developments. Initially it was assumed that the decaying Communist faction was the only obstacle to order in the country, but with the elimination of all the Party's political vestiges, a new era of disorder has begun in the Soviet Union.

The republics are striving to consolidate themselves and extort concessions from the Kremlin that the Soviet Government would never have granted under normal circumstances. The standard bearer of this movement for extorting concessions is Boris Yeltsin, who is known today as the one who played the foremost role in tackling the coupists. He openly took measures which were, and are, the Soviet president's prerogative. With these decisions Yeltsin has placed Gorbachev in a reactive position and has even motivated him to follow his policies. [passage omitted]

All facts and figures clearly indicate that the dissolution of the Communist Party was not Gorbachev's heart's desire and that he had attempted to keep the Communist Party dominate as a lever to combat anyone attempting to separate their path from that of Gorbachev. [passage omitted]

The West—the United States in particular—is behind all the events in the Soviet Union. The West's role in helping to dismember the Eastern European empire is so clear that the probability of involvement by the CIA and other Western intelligence organizations is being seriously examined. Even though on principle the West and even the United States are not able to influence the decision-making centers or even the lower levels of the Soviet Government in this way and to bring about such amazing developments, the United States acted so cleverly that it soon rode the tide of the swift events in the Soviet Union and gave the impression that it was in control of the bid to oust Gorbachev and of the events which followed.

Bush recently stated that the Soviet developments are moving in the direction favored by the West. Every event in the Soviet Union was followed by an official White House statement or the airing of a view tantamount to interference. Not one development in the world so far has elicited such minute-by-minute reaction from the White House.

The White House has expressed clearly its desire to strengthen Yeltsin's position, to portray him as the "true leader of the reform seekers" and has also expressed its satisfaction over Yeltsin's preponderance.

This action accords with the past policy of the West, especially with its denigration of Gorbachev, and in fact complements it. The West always has welcomed the Baltic republics' pursuit of independence and has pressured Moscow to give them concessions.

But what the West and the United States want is far greater than what has happened so far. The West is pursuing its objective of destroying Soviet power and disintegrating the Soviet Union and is acting accordingly. This may elicit the initial approval of Europe, but tomorrow its repercussions will be felt through the destabilization of Europe and the shattering of the international power equilibrium. It is possible Europe then will separate its path from that of the United States and pursue an independent policy.

SALAM Views Soviet Developments, Effects

NC0209153591 Tehran SALAM in Persian 26 Aug 91 p 12, 10

[Commentary by 'Ali Mazru'i: "The United States—Confrontation With the Islamic Movement"]

[Excerpts] The changes and developments during the past week in the Soviet Union will have far-reaching repercussions on Soviet domestic policy and the international situation. The tidal wave of these policies will engulf all countries, including the Islamic Republic of Iran. To enable ourselves to pass over these approaching waves of change safely so that the Islamic Republic of Iran's ship reaches its destination, we should assess and analyze fully this situation and adopt a correct stance based on protection of our country's national and Islamic interests. Thus, we can prepare ourselves for an active approach toward the international scene and rise vigilantly to the defense of the Islamic revolution.

Judging from first glances at analyses and news reports being disseminated all over the world by the Western mass media, it appears the defeat of the coup plotters is a major victory for the West, in particular for the United States. In some news reports, this victory is being considered greater than the U.S. victory in its war with Iraq. Conveying such an impression to the world's people is intended to project the United States as the sole superpower in international politics—a superpower so great it was able to shatter all internal resistance against the United States in a country that was a superpower itself

and an enemy of the United States, and to lift Soviet supporters of the West to a position of absolute power.

It may be clarified that such a viewpoint is favored by the U.S. echelons, as well. The U.S. President in his speech termed Gorbachev's return to power as a success in the attainment of the new world order being pursued by the United States. [passage omitted]

Only the Islamic movement is poised at the very center of confrontation against the United States. It is the only force among all the Islamic countries, in particular Middle East countries, which can rise up to confront and combat the United States. Therefore, the United States—which is basking in false pride over its victory in the Persian Gulf war and events in the Soviet Union—will divert all its attention toward the Islamic countries, especially in the Middle East and the Islamic Republic of Iran, once the situation in the Soviet Union stabilizes. The United States will then strive to eliminate all opposition to its forging of the new world order.

To pursue its policy, the United States will proceed with the following plans, step by step:

1. Pursue the policy of attaining Arab-Israeli peace in a manner in which the existence of the usurpist Jerusalem regime will be officially recognized by the region and will stabilize itself in the region.

2. Pursue the policy of disarmament in a way that the countries opposed to the United States in the region only have minimal military capability and do not have the strength to oppose U.S. domination.

3. Efforts to change the current government systems in the region in a manner in which, under the guise of establishing democracy, political freedom, and social justice, regimes which are pro-West assume power.

Bringing about such changes can result in preventing the new and educated generations in these countries from reaching toward the Islamic movement and will transform them into a strong alternative to combat the Islamic movement.

4. Directing the Arab economies in the region toward the welfare of the largest stratum of society in such a way that poverty ceases to be a strong motivating factor in social movements and evolves instead into an element for dragging the new Muslim generation and all the Muslims toward corruption and material pleasures.

5. Pressuring governments with an independent, anti-U.S. policy through economic embargoes and a political and cultural onslaught and the bolstering of pro-Western forces within the governments.

Without a doubt, to combat the infernal power of the United States, we should prepare ourselves more thoroughly than ever and should realize that the greatest support we have in this path of faith is divine succor. Faith in monotheism, the prophethood, and the hereafter is an infinite force which no power in the world will be able to combat if strengthened in the hearts of the Muslim masses. All of us should know that in the sphere of combat, we have lost to weapons and technology, but in the ideological field we are victorious.

Today the capitalist ideology has nothing to say in the sphere of morals and human values, and in the West, nihilism [preceding word in English] has transmuted human beings into hollow androids. The carnivorous nature of the Westerners stems from this very condition.

Therefore, we should bring the field of battle into the ideological arena and with all our force and strength we should enter the foray. But we should know that for this purpose, we need intelligent, realistic, worldly wise and aware individuals. Today, however, we are confronted with a hydra-headed onslaught by the enemy on the internal and external plane, and only the presence of learned, aware, sympathetic, perceptive, worldly wise and understanding scholars can assist us.

We should know that only the force of the devout can foil the domineering designs of the United States. Without any doubt, if we are embroiled in petty bickering at home and we have nothing to say in the battle of ideas, the opportunity will be lost and the plan for a new world order will shatter everything. Come, let us rise up for the guardianship of Islam in an alert and vigilant manner.

Economic Agreement Signed With Malaysia

LD0209221891 Tehran IRNA in English 1021 GMT 2 Sep 91

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 2, IRNA—Iran and Malaysia signed a letter of understanding calling for extensive bilateral economic, industrial and trade cooperation before Malaysian Deputy Prime Minister Ghafar Baba wound up his five-day visit to Tehran Monday.

Interviewed by reporters before departure, Ghafar Baba said that in compliance with the agreements reached with the Iranian officials, Tehran and Kuala Lumpur will cooperate in fields of housing construction, telecommunication, electronics and transportation.

Expressing pleasure with his visit to Iran, Ghafar Baba said that Malaysia envisages a good prospect for Tehran-Kuala Lumpur economic and political cooperation.

Also speaking to reporters, Iran's vice president and head of the budget and plan organization Mas'ud Rowghani-Zanjani who saw off the Malaysian delegation said that the two countries agreed to set up an oil terminal in Malaysia with a capacity of 20 million barrels of Iranian oil to be distributed in East Asia. The investment for the project will come from Malaysia.

Zanjani also added that Malaysia has agreed to provide Institute of Standard and Industrial Research of Iran (ISIRI) with the necessary equipments worth dlrs. 500,000 to control the quality of imported palm oil.

Iran is also to make direct purchases of palm oil from Malaysia and export fresh fruit to that country. The two sides are also to promote tourism industry and hold the third session of Irano-Malaysia joint economic commission.

Meanwhile, Ghafar Baba in a meeting with Iran's Oil Minister Gholam Reza Aqazadeh Monday morning called for promotion of Tehran-Kuala Lumpur cooperation in oil industry and requested Iran to assist Malaysia in oil projects.

The two sides agreed that technical and feasability studies be undertaken for executing of oil projects in Malaysia by Iran.

Nepal & Bhutan

Group Leaves for India Without Water Minister

BK0109164191 Hong Kong AFP in English 1641 GMT 1 Sep 91

[Text] Kathmandu, Sept 1 (AFP)—A Nepalese delegation left here Sunday for high-level talks in New Delhi without Water Resources Minister Shyam Prasad Adhikari, an official in the Nepalese cabinet secretariat said here.

The source said the water minister's absence apparently meant a delay in important talks on proposed hydroelectric, flood-control and irrigation projects in Nepal, which are also of keen interest to India.

The source said Nepal would send a separate delegation next week to discuss the water issues.

"India is showing keen interest in the launching of a (giant) 4,000-megawatt" hydroelectric project southwest of Kathmandu, the source added.

The delegation which did depart for one day of talks in the Indian capital was headed by Chief Cabinet Secretary Damodar Prasad Gautam and included Nepal's foreign, finance and commerce secretaries, as well as its ambassador to India, the official said.

Opposition legislators, especially those from the Nepal Communist Party, have charged that the Nepali Congress government was preparing to negotiate water projects with India for the larger interest of India.

The Nepalese delegation is set to meet Indian Prime Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao and other officials before returning Tuesday.

Nepalese officials have said the main purpose of their New Delhi meetings would be the conclusion of trade and transit agreements with India.

Pakistan

Bhutto Threatened With Treason Over Remarks

BK0409124691 Hong Kong AFP in English 1226 GMT 4 Sep 91

[Text] Islamabad, Sept 4 (AFP)—A key aide to Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif Wednesday threatened opposition leader Benazir Bhutto with a treason trial for divulging nuclear secrets, while she built up pressure on the government rocked by a financial scandal.

The former premier's remarks over the weekend that Pakistan was capable of making an atomic device embarrassed the government ahead of crucial talks here this month with the United States.

An official U.S. delegation is due in Islamabad on September 14 to discuss bilateral relations clouded by Washington's suspension of half a billion dollars annual military and economic assistance last October on suspicion that Islamabad's nuclear programme was weapon-oriented.

"The irresponsible remarks on the nuclear question amounted to treason for which she could be held liable under the law of the land," warned Shahbaz Sharif, brother of the prime minister and known to wield considerable influence in the government.

"I don't fear, let them institute 100 cases against me," Bhutto told a press conference here Wednesday. Dismissed for alleged abuse of power in August 1990 by President Ghulam Ishaq Khan after a 20 month rule, she is facing about half a dozen corruption charges.

The row over the nuclear issue fuelled a long-running feud between the two camps, coming on top of a spirited public campaign by Bhutto over a multi-million dollar fraud by private finance companies, some owned or patronised by members of Sharif's Islamic Democratic Alliance (IJI).

Tens of thousands of people were fleeced in Punjab Province by cooperative societies which lured depositors by offering exorbitant interest rates in violation of the country's banking laws, and later refused reimbursement.

IJI deputy Zulfiqar Awan, who was running Services Cooperative Credit Corporation (SCCC), has been detained because officials said he planned to flee the country after "misappropriating" huge sums of money.

Most of an estimated 200 cooperative firms registered with provincial governments were involved in the illegal practice of maintaining bank accounts for customers.

A similar scandal occured during Bhutto's rule in 1989 when a number of company owners disappeared overnight, depriving depositors of savings running into millions of dollars. Cases against defaulter firms are still pending.

Besides SCCC another large concern, National Industrial Cooperative Finance Corporation (NICFC) operated by the family of Industries and Interior Minister Chaudhry Shujaat Hussain, is also in the spotlight.

Sharif's own family, running Ittefaq Group of Industries, has been implicated in the NICFC affair after it admitted borrowing heavily from the cooperative, although it said "each and every penny was repaid."

In her tirade against what she called the "gang of four", Bhutto accused relatives of Chaudhry, Sharif, the president and of late military ruler General Mohammed Ziaul Haq of borrowing 10,000 million rupees (400 million dollars) from government institutions, NICFC, the scandal-ridden Bank of Credit and Commerce (BCCI) and other banks."

"The entire banking system is in danger of collapse due to the astronomical amount borrowed by them", Bhutto told newsmen at the end of a whirlwind tour of four Punjab districts including Chaudhry's Gujrat constituency.

She led rallies and demonstrations of thousands of people, warning that her public campaign would continue "till every penny was returned by the swindlers."

Ittefaq's General Manager Haroon Pasha said in a statement the group "did not commit any sin" by taking loans from NICFC to set up industrial units.

Pasha said Bhutto's husband Asif Ali Zardari obtained loans at seven percent interest only while Ittefaq borrowed at up to 20 percent.

It was compelled to borrow because of the "vindictive policies" of Bhutto towards Ittefaq when she was prime minister and Sharif was in opposition, he said.

Cease-Fire at Kashmir Border 'Being Implemented'

BK0409085891 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in Urdu 0200 GMT 4 Sep 91

[Text] A press release issued by the Inter Service Public Relations Office in Rawalpindi yesterday said that a general cease-fire is being implemented by Pakistani and Indian forces along the Line of Control in Kashmir and no major violation has been reported from any sector. The flag meeting of the local brigade commanders was held yesterday according to schedule and it considered steps for the effective implementation of the cease-fire.

Air Chief Notes 'Volatile Situation'

BK0409131691 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in English 1300 GMT 4 Sep 91

[Text] The chief of air staff, Air Chief Marshal Farooq Firoze Khan, has said that Pakistan Air Force is fully capable of thwarting any aggressive design of the enemy. Addressing student officers at the Command and Staff College in Quetta today, he said in the wake of emerging a new world order and the volatile situation in Kashmir, there was a dire need to seek optimum utilization of our limited resources. The air chief's address was followed by a question-answer session in which he replied questions put forward by the student officers.

Arms Exports Said Worth $16 Million Annually

BK0409013891 Hong Kong AFP in English 1307 GMT 3 Sep 91

[Text] Islamabad, Sept 3 (AFP)—Pakistan exports light arms worth 16 million dollars annually, a top Defence Ministry official said Tuesday.

Pakistan ships the arms to 30 "friendly" countries including Saudi Arabia, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka, the official ASSOCIATED PRESS OF PAKISTAN quoted Defence Ministry Secretary F.I. Malik as saying.

The ministry is considering a proposal to manufacture helicopters in Pakistan, he said, adding that some industrial groups and foreign firms were willing to participate in such a project.

Pakistan, which has depended mainly on the United States and China for heavy weapons, recently started manufacturing tanks. Its arsenal also includes two Pakistani-made medium-range surface-to- surface missiles.

Washington suspended some 600 million dollars in annual military and economic assistance to Pakistan in October on suspicion it was developing nuclear arms.

4 Bomb Blasts in Hyderabad Kill 4, Injure 18

BK0109111291 Hong Kong AFP in English 1035 GMT 1 Sep 91

[Text] Karachi, Sept 1 (AFP)—Four people were killed and 18 injured Sunday when four explosions shook the southern Pakistani city of Hyderabad, officials said here. The explosions occurred in the city's market and outside the Hyderabad Press Club killing four people and injuring 18, six of them critically, the officials said.

Bomb disposal experts also diffused an unexploded bomb in a bookshop in the centre of the city, 130 kilometers (80 miles) north of here.

The blasts came on the day nationalist activist Jiye Sindh Mahaz called for protests against the repatriation of Pakistanis stranded in Bangladesh since former East Pakistan won independence in 1971. No one has claimed responsibility for the explosions, police said.

Hyderabad Bomb Blasts Confirmed

BK0109155191 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in Urdu 1500 GMT 1 Sep 91

[Text] A press note issued by the district magistrate of Hyderabad says that four bombs exploded in different areas of Hyderabad and Latifabad today, as a result of which one person was killed and 25 were injured. The injured were immediately rushed to the hospital, but

none of them is said to be in serious condition. The press note adds that two more bombs were detected at two different places, which were defeused by the Civil Defense personnel. The police are investigating these blasts.

Sri Lanka

Further on Presidential Impeachment Situation

Premadasa Offers Referendum

BK0309143591 Colombo Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation Radio Network in English 1245 GMT 3 Sep 91

[Text] President Ranasinghe Premadasa addressing the government parliamentary group at the Presidential Secretariat yesterday said that the executive presidency is the only means by which the country's burning problems could be resolved. The president said that various races live in Sri Lanka, so differences could arise. Minorities also live in Sri Lanka. Mr. Premadasa said if the leader of the government is elected on the basis of the Westminister scheme, problems could not be (?dealt) in a broad-based manner, because his electoral constituents would be insufficient.

Speaking of the impeachment motion, the president inquired as to what wrongs he had committed. The president said that the elections held in 1988, 89, and 91 showed that his party had increased its number of votes and that the common masses were with him. The president explained his course of action to alleviate the status of the country.

The president said that those who agreed that the presidential system of government was good during the time of the former president, now condemned it. He said what existed now was class distinction and not party differences.

The president told the government parliamentary group that they must remember that it was he who opened the door for anyone to aspire for the highest office in the land. He said if his course of action could be followed, he would put an end for all time to the claim of the (?rudderless government).

The president said on the impeachment issue, it was essential not to create dissension. Everyone should avoid any constraints to the peace process. The president said that he was 100 percent for holding a referendum, if it was necessary to decide on the suitability of the presidential system. He appealed to everyone at this juncture not to do anything to create trouble or cause injustice to the people. The president emphasized that he is quite prepared to face the impeachment motion as he has the experience to face an upheaval. He said that there is no one within the ranks of the United National Party who has been victimized or [word indistinct]. The present conspiracy is to gain power through the back doors.

The president said that 116 MPs in the government group have signed the motion extending their full cooperation to him. They have reiterated that it is unjust to carry on such a campaign, while others have said that their signatures were taken under compulsion.

The president said that because of his program of [word indistinct], there was a remarkable economic recovery and the inflation rate, which was 22 percent, has now come down to 14 percent. Various programs have been implemented to improve the living standards of the people. Over 1 million people were provided with employment avenues and income avenues last year.

The president said that in his election manifesto, he had promised to give wider powers to parliament and he had often recounted this promise on several occasions. But, he said, when the way was opened to resolve any problem through consultation, there was no need to bring forward such a motion. The president said that he accepted the presidency not to impose his will, but with a sense of dedication. [sentence as heard] He said he knows that the Sinhala Buddhist and the Christian population as well as the Tamil Muslim and (?Bohra) communities had a lot of faith in him. He said the only problem to be resolved today is the northeast problem. He said the only person who could resolve this problem is one who has gained the confidence of 74 percent of the Sinhala Buddhist population in this country. It is only such an individual who could give a just solution to the problem of the minorities in this country. The president concluded that it was his firm conviction that he could mete out justice to everyone.

Opposition Seeks Support for Ouster

BK0409090891 Hong Kong AFP in English 0815 GMT 4 Sep 91

[Text] Colombo, Sept 4 (AFP)—Opposition parties here Wednesday said they planned nationwide public meetings to drum up support for ousting President Ranasinghe Premadasa and to take Sri Lanka's constitutional crisis to the people.

Opposition leader and former Premier Sirima Bandaranaike said the move was initiated because the state-run television and radio monopolies had blacked out the parties, adding that private newspapers were also under tremendous pressure.

"We are planning at least one snap public meeting in each district," Bandaranaike told reporters here. "We will not announce dates and venues in advance because police will try to block us."

The Sri Lanka Freedom Party (SLFP) leader termed as illegal a poster campaign in support of Premadasa and the executive presidency which the opposition and a powerful faction of the ruling United National Party (UNP) is struggling to dismantle.

"If we are getting the same exposure as the president on television and radio we need not have public meetings,"

she said, adding, "the way the media is abused is shameful. We have lodged official complaints."

Bandaranaike said the opposition welcomed Premadasa's offer to hold a referendum on the 1978 constitution which scrapped the British-modelled parliamentary democracy in favour of a French- style executive presidency.

"We welcome the referendum and people should be free to campaign. But knowing the man, we are sure he will not hold a referendum," said Bandaranaike, who lost narrowly to Premadasa in the December 1988 election.

The SLFP is backed by other opposition parties and dissident MPs from the UNP who favour overthrowing Premadasa on a wide range of charges. However, the government has said it has won back the support of a sufficient number of defectors to achieve a majority in parliament.

Some 116 UNP politicians appeared on state television with a petition urging Speaker Mohammad Hanifa Mohammad not to proceed with the impeachment motion which some of them had endorsed.

Bandaranaike's son Anura, who is also a key SLFP leader, said the new resolution with the speaker would make no difference to the impeachment process and challenged the government to take a secret vote in parliament.

"If they have a majority, why go to all these lengths to humiliate their own MPs parading them in front of cameras. Take a seceret ballot on the floor of the house," Anura Bandaranaike said.

He said he expected the crisis to drag on for a long time because Premadasa had already suspended parliament till September 24 to buy time to win over dissidents.

Traditionally, the president issues a policy statement at the beginning of every session of parliament, but Bandaranaike said he believed Premadasa may not make an appearance when the assembly reconvenes.

"If he comes to parliament we are going to question him at length," he said, acknowledging that the opposition would break tradition to do so because Premadasa also had not followed the customary norms.

Al-Qadhdhafi Commends Israeli Section Closure

BK0309144791 Colombo Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation International Service in English 1045 GMT 3 Sep 91

[Text] The Libyan leader, Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, has conveyed his regards and appreciation to President Ranasinghe Premadasa for his courageous decision to send away the Israeli interest section from Sri Lanka. Colonel Al-Qadhdhafi said that the entire Arab world and the PLO were joining him to praise the Sri Lankan president for his far-sighted vision. He also made a special reference to the poverty alleviation program and wished that there would be peace and prosperity in the country under the leadership of President Ranasinghe Premadasa. He further pointed out that Libya will extend its fullest support to Sri Lanka. This message was conveyed to Minister of Trade and Commerce A.R. Mansoor when he participated in the inaugurayion ceremony of the Great Manmade River Project in Libya.

Officials Discuss Operation Against LTTE

BK3008121591 Colombo Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation International Service in English 1045 GMT 30 Aug 91

[Text] The security forces are continuing the clearing operations in the north and east. Colonel Sarath Munesinghe detailing the security situation in the north and east said that the LTTE [Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam] terrorists attacked a team of 10 soldiers proceeding from Vankalai camp to Palali camp. He said that at Trincomalee, terrorists ambushed a security forces' route-clearing party by exploding claymore mines inflicting heavy casualties. The security forces retaliated and the terrorists withdrew. Five bodies of terrorists and several weapons were recovered. Col. Munesinghe said that the route leading from Kilinochchi to Jaffna through Elephant Pass is now open for the general public.

Commodore Mohan Jeyamaha, director of naval operation of the Navy headquarters, spoke of the problems faced by Sri Lankan authorities in curbing the movement of unauthorized crafts and trawlers in Sri Lankan waters. He recalled that the Indo-Lanka agreement in 1974 demarcated boundaries between Sri Lanka and India. He pointed out that a large number of Indian trawlers now bring about 400 to 500 of poaching in Sri Lankan territorial waters. [sentenced as heard] He claimed that the Navy needs a large number of vessels to deal with the illicit poaching in the Sri Lankan waters. The terrorists and the smugglers use this opportunity and mingle with the Indian fishing trawlers in the night. Last year, the Navy apprehended two smuggling trawlers. Commodore Jeyamaha described how LTTE cadres masquerade as naval personnel. They have fired at Indian fishing trawlers to discredit Sri Lankan authorities.

Last year, the LTTE brought in 201 Indian trawlers on three occasions. The trawlers captured by the Navy have been disposed off to the authorities. Commodore Jeyamaha said that there is information to say that the LTTE is holding some Indian boats.

Answering a question raised by a newsmen, Commodore Jeyamaha said that as and when the Navy apprehended any Indian trawlers, the Sri Lankan authorities brought this to the notice of the Indian High Commission.

Curfew Imposed in North

BK0109133291 Hong Kong AFP in English 1327 GMT 1 Sep 91

[Text] Colombo, Sept 1 (AFP)—The Defence Ministry announced Sunday an indefinite curfew in large areas of northern Sri Lanka where Tamil separatist guerrillas are fighting to establish a separate state. State radio said the curfew went into effect Sunday afternoon and no movement of traffic would be allowed in the sprawling district of Mullaitivu and neighbouring Vavuniya.

No reason was given for imposing the curfew, however similar action has previously been taken in separatist areas to provide cover for troops engaged in operations against the rebel Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE). The LTTE is fighting to establish a separate state for Sri Lanka's two million minority Tamils concentrated in the island's Northeast.

Leader Says LTTE Ready To Hold Peace Talks

BK0409040491 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0245 GMT 4 Sep 91

[Text] The LTTE [Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam] leader, Mr. Prabhakaran, says the Sri Lankan Government should recognize the concept of a Tamil homeland to bring peace to the island nation. In an interview to BBC, the LTTE leader reaffirmed his organization's readiness to hold peace talks. He, however, said Colombo has to recognize the right of the Tamil minority to self-determination.

Premadasa Speaks at 2 Religious Ceremonies

Urges Peaceful Solution to Problems

BK3108113891 Colombo Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation International Service in English 1045 GMT 31 Aug 91

[Excerpts] President Ranasinghe Premadasa has stressed the importance of taking measures for the benefit of the people by forgetting differences. Such differences and conflicts should be solved through peaceful means as human rights. The president was speaking at the daham hamuwa [religious ceremony] at the Vijitapura Rajamahavihara in Kalawewa yesterday. Addressing the gathering after inaugurating the new [word indistinct] room at the Rajamahavihara, he said that the moral values could be created in the minds of the people by following the principles of the Dhamma [Buddha's teachings]. The members of the Mahasangha [Buddhist clergy] helped the people immensely in this regard. [passage omitted]

The president claimed that he was always trying to resolve issues through nonviolent means. The election manifesto of the United National Party during the 1988 presidential election was prepared according to the guidelines and the policies of the Lichchavi kings of India. The United Nations General Assembly is also following the same policies of the Lichchavi kings.

Referring to the north and east situation, the president said that he had invited the militant groups to come for negotiations to settle the ethnic conflict. Several militant groups, except the LTTE [Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam], have entered the democratic process. The president reiterated that he was still willing to settle the problem with the LTTE through consultation, consensus, and compromise. The government is implementing a special program to wipe out poverty from the country and thereby improve the living standards of the poorest sector. The president added that the people would get an opportunity to assist the places of religious worship in their villages after successful completion of this program.

Criticizes Blocs Supporting Evils

BK0209130291 Colombo Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation International Service in English 1045 GMT 2 Sep 91

[Excerpt] President Ranasinghe Premadasa has said that when the government is in the process of removing evils which lead society astray, power blocs supportive of such evils have emerged in another guise. The president was addressing a daham hamuwa [religious ceremony] after the re-erection and restoration of the Maligawila Buddha statue. He said that the government was trying to resuscitate the economy along with spiritual values. The government would bravely go forward to remove obstacles.

The president said that even during turbulent time, the masses assured his victory. The entire country gave him a mandate to do the right thing. He said that because of gambling in casinos and jackpot machines, society was gradually being eroded. Fathers of families as well as school children became addicted to these forms of gambling. The government was compelled to take action to curb these activities. Power blocs in opposition to this course of action have arisen in another guise.

The president firmly believed that the people's power could never be purchased for monetary considerations and that power could never be subjected. Religious values were necessary even for the proper utilization of economic resources. The president said that the government sheltered the people just as a parent who safeguard the child. He gave detailed history of the Maligawila Buddha statue. He said that the statue was erected by King (Akrabodhi) in the seventh century and it was recorded that there was a hospital for blind people near the statue. He said that though some people appear to society as sighted beings, they were in fact blind in their action. He appealed to such people to go to Maligawila to receive correct vision. [passage omitted]